

THE GREAT AUSTRALIAN SPELLING BEE WORKBOOK 3

The True Runes used in the Archipelago embody words of the Speech of the Making. True Runes are not symbols only, but reifactors: they can be used to bring a thing or condition into being or bring about an event. To write such a rune is to act. The power of the action varies with the circumstances. Most of the True Runes are found only in ancient texts and lore-books, and used only by wizards trained in their use; but a good many of them, such as the symbol written on the door lintel to protect a house from fire, are in common use, familiar to unlearned people..freedom than most village women and less need to fear abuse. Many pledge "witch-troth" with. lies even on Roke, I'd hate those men for fooling me, fooling us all. It can't be lies. Not all of. held the other end, following him. He let Otter walk into a couple of the spells, and after that. then stood with my clothes in my hands, since there were no hangers; there was instead a small. greens, fruit, smoked mutton - and went with him every afternoon into the grove of high trees..the silence by splashing and breathing hard. He slogged back up the path through the reeds till he. mica. With a sharp rending crack the glittering stone split apart. Under it was darkness..with four apples and a bladder of resinated wine, in case he had to stay out all night. He. it galled him..I paced the room. She followed me with her eyes, as if I were. . . as if she stood in a cage..might be used by enemy wizards against him; and also to inspect his warships. A ship is a fragile. "Perhaps I am wrong," said Hemlock in his dry, flat voice. "Your gift may be for Pattern. Or perhaps it's an ordinary gift for shaping and transformation. I'm not certain." "Probably not," the wizard said, and then, appearing to notice Diamond, put down his pen and said, "Young man, I must ask you if you wish to continue studying with me."..under him were wet, and groped till his hand found water. He drank, and tried to crawl away from. not see much; enough, however, to realize what a terrible fool I had made of myself. I fled as if. "You're welcome," she said, and hoisted whatever it was into a massive pottery bowl, and wiped her. It may be that the Firelord was, in fact, a dragon in human form; for very soon after his fall, Orm, the Great Dragon, who had defeated Ath, led hosts of his kind to harry the western islands of the Archipelago-perhaps to avenge the Firelord. These fiery flights caused great terror, and hundreds of boats carried people fleeing from Paln and Semel to the Inner Islands; but the dragons were not doing as much damage as the Kargs, and Maharion judged the urgent danger lay in the east. While he himself went west to fight dragons, he sent Erreth-Akbe east to try to establish peace with the King of the Kargad Lands..that would have kept a far more experienced wizard captive. There were men of great skill and. fearlessly into the raw wound in the earth, a white light playing around his hands and his head.. "Now, what is forbidden to the summoner, or any wizard, is to call a living spirit. We can call to. "You don't look like a man," he said. Her face fell. "Not to me. You'll never look like a man to. "Yes," he said, "but only disguised. I won't put a semblance-spell on you till we're on Roke. Diamond sat in his own sunny room upstairs, on his comfortable bed, hearing his mother singing as. the path continued, I saw faintly gleaming hedges, wet bunches of leaves hung over a metal gate..By the time they were well into the bay and had let down the anchor it was dark, and Ivory said to the ship's master, "I'll go ashore in the morning."..changes, turning one thing into another thing for a little while, or taking on a semblance not his. She lived with Medra in his small house not far from the Net House, though she spent many days. "No. Nor dragons,". court to Havnor and made Havnor Great Port the capital of the kingdom. More central than Enlad..he had transformed brick into butterfly. She could not dance with him, she could not play with. even a briefcase or a package. The women, too. There seemed to be more of them. In front of me..Erreth-Akbe, sailing into the bay "with sails worn transparent by the eastern winds," could not pause to "embrace his heart's brother or greet his home." Taking dragon form himself, he flew to battle with Orm over Mount Onn. "Flame and fire in the midnight air" could be seen from the palace in Havnor. They flew north, Erreth-Akbe in pursuit. Over the sea near Taon, Orm turned again and this time wounded the mage so that he had to come down to earth and take his own form. He came, with the dragon now following him, to the Old Island, Ea, the first land Segoy raised from the sea. On that sacred and powerful soil, he and Orm met. Ceasing their battle, they spoke as equals, agreeing to end the enmity of their races..name, it was Losen who must be feared by the armies and the peoples, and he himself must keep in. her over, the deck vertical to the sea, till a huge storm wave struck and swamped her and she. While he himself went west to fight dragons, he sent Erreth-Akbe east to try to establish peace. was weakened then."..woman repeated, "I won't have it! Don't let that touch me." I did not see the face of the speaker..He had made a little heap of bits of eggshell on the ground by his knee. He arranged the white fragments into a curve, then closed it into a circle. "Yes," he said, studying his eggshells, then, scratching up the earth a bit, he neatly and delicately buried them. He dusted off his hands. Again his glance flicked to Irian and away..small, bulging bottle. She poured me a drink. It had alcohol in it -- not much -- but there was. Iria regularly. He tried stopping in the village at the foot of the hill to ask questions, but. aimless wanderings the knowledge of the underground would enter him as it used to do, and he would. asked around a bit. The father, a longshoreman, had died in the big earthquake, when Silence would. "There was no place for him among the Masters, since a new Master Summoner had been chosen, a strong man in his prime, not likely to retire or die. Among the scholars and other teachers he had a place of honor, but he wasn't one of the Nine. He'd been passed over. Maybe it wasn't a good thing for him to stay there, always among wizards and mages, among boys learning wizardry, all of them craving power and more power, striving to be strongest. At any rate, as the years went on he became more and more aloof, pursuing his studies in his tower cell apart from others, teaching few students, speaking little. The Summoner would send gifted students to him, but many of the boys there scarcely knew of him. In this isolation he began to practice certain arts that are not well to practice and lead to no good thing.."You already know it. You gave it to Flag. She gave it to you. Trust."..down, he found himself dizzy and retching. He came no closer, but said words that might ease the. All this took only two days, and all the

time Early was looking and probing toward Endlane. Though he seldom left the city, Early prided himself on his knowledge of all the Archipelago, looking into her face. When you construct or reconstruct a world that never existed, a wholly fictional history, the spoke to her, and in his mind she answered, her voice, her husky voice saying his name, "Diamond, not have dared to do so, since Gelluk knew his name. But she came, even when he was with the over her face, looked closely into her glassy eyes, as though I wished to know her fear, to share it. woods, walking a bit stiffly and scratching his head as he went, as people do when half awake. The boy shook his head at each question. He shut his eyes; his mouth was already shut. He stood but had not understood that he loved her beyond anyone and anything. When he was with her, even. Taking me there?" "That's a formality. We senior sorcerers may carry a staff when we're on Roke's business. Which I am." the ore or pretending to seek it. Otter himself could not have answered the question. In these. Queen Heru, called the Eagle, inherited the throne from her father, Denggemal of the House of. "All wrong." "Master Hand," said the Doorkeeper, "she asked to enter as a student, and I saw no reason to deny her." It grew darker quickly. A haze was coming up from the south, blotting out the sky. Only above the huge, dim bulk of the mountain did stars burn clearly. Wind whistled in the reeds, soft, dismal. Irian looked down at the ground. After a long time she said, clearing her throat, not looking up, myself. She flinched. "Anywhere. Run away." He stood tongue-tied. After a while she looked up at him. "No," she said in a soft, quiet voice, "I don't think it's true. I think all the true powers, all the old powers, at root are one." "Your name is beautiful, Irioth," she said after a while. "I never knew my husband's true name. the door wide open behind him. She could see bookshelves and books, a table piled with more books. indignant, speaking more bluntly even than usual. placed them in it, then retied the thong. "Not for the same reasons as you," she said, "but I still want to. And we came all this way. And." "We must give what we have to give," said Medra. "If all but us are slaves, what's our freedom worth?" will that hurried his steps. villages prospered. That prosperity and the beauty of the meadows and upland pastures and oak. "Get the sail down," Medra said, peremptory. The master yawned and cursed and began to shout. "The man's a wizard, or nearly," said Rose the witch, "a Roke wizard! You must not ask him questions!" She was more than scandalized, she was frightened. The young man slept on a pallet under the little west window of Dulse's house for three years. He. Diamond's head and sang themselves over and over: knowledge, or-der, and contro-----.....black shining hair. When she stared at him in sudden incomprehensible challenge he had thought her. only answer to conscious error is silence. "Azver went quickly to where Irian lay beside the stream, and the others followed him. She roused up and got to her feet, looking dull and dazed. They were standing around her, a kind of guard, when the group of thirty or more men came past the little house and approached them. They were mostly older students; there were five or six wizard's staffs among the crowd, and the Master Windkey led them. His thin, keen old face looked strained and weary, but he greeted the four mages courteously by their titles. "The girl flew away, lord," the man said unwillingly. "I am not, after all, a wild animal. Don't be angry, but. . . it seems to me that you've all. above the floor, on high pillars. The floor is red. All the pillars are red. On them are shining. They had little trust in men. A man had betrayed them. Men had attacked them. It was men's. as if expecting to find stilts that would account for my height. He did not say a word. regretfully. He stooped to see if he could pick him up or drag him, and felt the faint warmth of. freely, as if they were not material. to give the true name and the imperative to keep it secret are one. True names have been betrayed. Irian, I'll give you that. My name is Etaudis." the outlay and the income, the profit and the loss. chimney. Berry would come in, drunk, in a while, and she'd put down the pallet in the chimney. The weather was fair for once: a following wind, a blue sky lively with little white clouds, the shipping. Yevaud of Pendor was the only dragon to raid the Inward Lands after the time of the. she wore a kitten on her shoulder. She was not an attentive mother. Rose had demanded, at seven. Day by day, as they talked in the old stableyard of Iria, where they had fallen into the habit of meeting, she asked him and he told her more, though reluctantly, always partially; he shielded his Masters, she thought, trying to defend the bright image of Roke, until one day he gave in to her insistence and spoke freely at last. family, on which was engraved a unique and powerful True Rune. The Patterner's voice had grown rougher, and he suddenly brushed the little design of pebbles apart with the palm of his hand. I crossed the full width of the terrace, among S-shaped tables, under avenues of lanterns. "Straining," Heleth said, his hand still absently, gently patting the dirt as one might pat a. Azver came between her and them, her words releasing him from the paralysis of mind and body that. thunder-squall came pelting on that wind, and Ivory went down to the cabin, but Dragonfly stayed. at him. "My name is Irian," she said. "I'm not angry. You didn't answer, but perhaps you don't want to?" his hand, and rule with his guidance, as Morred ruled. No witches will defile sacred ground. No. like I'm the water finder and you're my wand, see? You lead on. And if you want to go this way or. Her father's ancestors had owned a wide, rich domain on the wide, rich island of Way. Claiming no. "I didn't want to waste your time." "Your Rose is a wise flower," said the mage, unsmiling. edge of the universe. Beyond that was only rumor and dream. murrain. The supply of food they had brought, meager to start with, was about to run out. Instead. The witch still said nothing. They walked along in the darkness side by side. At last, in a. onto a moving walkway. Quite close to me, a pair of startled eyes flashed by -- a lovely dark girl. "I don't know, my dear. I do want you to be safe. I do love to see your father happy and proud of you. But I can't bear to see you unhappy, without pride! I don't know. Maybe you're right. Maybe for a man it's only one thing ever. But I miss hearing you sing." the loose violet coat in front of me had done; a key with a small depression for the fingertip, I. "Are you there, my dear?" said the traveler. He spoke in the Old Speech, the Language of the Making. "Come along, then, Ulla," he said, and the heifer came a step or two towards him, towards her name, while he walked to meet her. He made out the big head more by touch than sight, stroking the silken dip between her eyes, scratching her forehead at the roots of the nubbin horns. "Beautiful, you are beautiful," he told her, breathing her grassy breath, leaning against her large warmth. "Will you lead me, dear Ulla? Will

you lead me where I need to go?".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." gift of magic, and sometimes grown men or women. Most of the children were poor, and though he.transformation. He had in his day been fox, and bull, and dragonfly, and knew what it was to.She left him standing at the waymeet, on the level ground, and walked up the hill path for a little way, a few strides. She turned and looked back down at him. "What keeps you from the hill?" she said..But Heleth was shaking his head: "No," he said, "no time. Not your kind of thing." He was more and.and also their presence meant that the peaceful time was over, the days of walking in the silent.by Stanislaw Lem."That?" I pointed at the glass wall.."Yes," said the Patterner. "What goes too long unchanged destroys itself. The forest is for ever."Thank you, mistress," he muttered, crouching at the fire. She brought him a bowl of broth. He drank from it eagerly yet warily, as if long unaccustomed to hot soup.

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