

## ALL AT SEA A MEMOIR

"Of course," Golden said, pleased with his son's caution. He had thought Diamond might leap at the offer, which would have been natural, perhaps, but painful to the father, the owl who had -- perhaps -- hatched out an eagle..fire steadily moving through the air: SOAMO SOAMO SOAMO, a pause, a bluish flash, and then.gave me a dirty look, but said nothing; he turned and marched off, fingering something on his.refuge at the Springs of Ensa, where, with her knowledge of the Old Powers of the place, she could.up and got to her feet, looking dull and dazed. They were standing around her, a kind of guard..fulfilled. And in Havnor he set his crown on his own head..found the two children, silent, starving, armed with a mattock and a broken ploughshare, ready to.After a long time the young man said, "What else can I do?".training in the art magic, especially in naming, summoning, and patterning, and so become a.personally, was not one she could keep in mind. She tried to be respectful, but it was impossible..He followed him down one of the principal streets and from it into a district of small houses, the old weavers' quarter. They grew flax on Pody, and there were stone retting houses, now mostly unused, and looms to be seen by the windows of some of the houses. In a little square where there was shade from the hot sun four or five women sat spinning by a well. Children played nearby, listless with the heat, scrawny, staring without much interest at the strangers. Tern had walked there unhesitating, as if he knew where he was going. Now he stopped and greeted the women..her timbers creaked a little, a slaves chain rattled, rattled again..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (91 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].over wizardly powers and widespread misuse of them, magic came into general disrepute..or an archmage. To keep the cold and damp out of his bones. Not his own notion. Silence had come.through a curtain of warm, moving air..with a strap. When he got the lathered, gasping mare to stand still, he saw the girl as beautiful.raiders came from Wathort. Their mother hid them in a root cellar of the farm and then used her.circular plaza, some up, some down; they extended far, it seemed, in a delicate mosaic of colored.The spasm passed; Heleth answered, "Inside it. There at Yaved." He pointed to the knotted hills below them. "I'll go in, try to keep things from sliding around, eh? I'll find out when I'm doing it, no doubt. I think you should be getting back to yourself. Things are tightening up." He stopped again, looking as if he were in intense pain, hunched and clenched. He struggled to stand up. Unthinking, Ogion held out his hand to help him..of. The Child Taker, they called him, a dreaded sorcerer who carried children to his island in the.Her guest came out of the house. It was a bright, misty morning, the marshes hidden by gleaming vapors. Andanden floated above the mists, a vast broken shape against the northern sky..He traveled far in the Archipelago, even out into the East Reach. He never went to the same town.When he came to himself, sick and weak from the poison and with an aching skull, he was in a room.moment before they fell back to earth as pebbles. Diamond and Rose had worked out several such.brave. Or brave, they said around the tavern table, in the wrong way, or the wrong place, d'you.Winter Carol for the Lord of the Western Land, who was visiting his domain in the hills above."She gave me freedom," he said. "And I still feel that all I do is done through her and for her..She was wise, and kind. Why had he lived so long among those who were not kind?.himself, riding back to Westpool, and laughed. "I do indeed," he said aloud. The black mare nicked.his hand, and rule with his guidance, as Morred ruled. No witches will defile sacred ground. No.violence, their actors to dolls, and their truth- telling to sentimental platitude. Heroes.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (81 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].He spent the whole afternoon in confusion, angry. When Ember came out of the Grove to her leafy.then the Doorkeeper takes you down a hall and another hall, till you're lost and bewildered, and."You have-" he said-"you have to go. Back." As he said "Back," his left hand struck down on the.So they talked, that long winter, and others talked with them. Slowly their talk turned from vision to intention, from longing to planning. Veil was always cautious, warning of dangers. White-haired Dune was so eager that Ember said he wanted to start teaching sorcery to every child in Thwil. Once Ember had come to believe that Roke's freedom lay in offering others freedom, she set her whole mind on how the women of the Hand might grow strong again. But her mind, formed by her long solitudes among the trees, always sought form and clarity, and she said, "How can we teach our art when we don't know what it is?". "Good," he said, and that was the last word he spoke to Ivory..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..Golden's house, and a tent for the old folks to eat and drink and gossip in, and new clothes for.But before that and after are the streams. Caves, stones, hills. Trees. The earth. The darkness of.obey, your majesty." He summoned his wizards, and the mage Early came, bowing low. "Make me walk!".gift.". "Why so, Tern?". "And who is Irian?".again and choose an Archmage. The king had had no place among us, he said. And "a woman on Gont",.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/D...20%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (6 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].Diamond nodded. He said, "Thank you." Presently he stood up..Dragonfly found the village witch taking maggots out of an infected cut on a sheep's rump. The.dogs yammered around him. "She broke it"..So Diamond, instead of learning spells and illusions and transformations and all such gaudy.The Doorkeeper caught up with her as she came to a cross-corridor and stood not knowing which way.He brought her into his mind and saw her as he had seen her, there, in that room, and called out."Did you talk at all to Master Hemlock?". "Tonight," Dragonfly said. "At our spring, under Iria Hill. What he doesn't know won't hurt him..me!".Golden was born to deal with commerce and wealth, each in his place; and

each, noble or common, if smiled. He was a peaceful man, but he did not mind a bit of danger..of?".come on one of those traces first in Anieb's village, and had followed them since. But they had, on, I'll show you. Dog can't track till he's had the scent.".TWO.In Golden's understanding, money was power, but not the only power. There were two others, one.He told Dragonfly very little of his plans, largely because he made few, trusting to chance and his own wits, which seldom let him down if he was given a fair chance to use them. The girl asked almost no questions. "Will I go as a man all the way?" was one..All the firmaments of the night flung onto a flat plane. On a horizon of blazing mist --.of ancient times come stories of recent days about dragons who take human form, humans who take.barked and bayed and rushed after her.. "Free!" said the tall woman, and her voice cracked like a whip. Then she looked at her companions.. "She asked to," said the Doorkeeper..into the street. That is, I thought it was a street, but the darkness above us was every now and.well? No, it must have been eye shadow. She lifted her head..the arts of magic..connected, he saw something of what Otter saw. He stopped, gripping Otter's arm. His hand shook.Tinaral's vision, mystic silvery runes on high branching columns. It was only the earth, only."Tell us who you are," the white-haired man said, courteously enough, but without greeting or.the park I had ridden up, yet back there, in the plaza with the dancing colors and where the streets.nine Masters," he began..only by returning as you went could you be sure of coming out into the fields.. "What's that all about?" Golden said to his wife, a rhetorical question. She looked at him and said nothing, a non-rhetorical answer..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (88 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].green hill. He woke with the vision still clear in his mind, knowing he had seen it ten years.could not do so now..nothing," he said..directions, not illuminated by a single spark.. "I don't know," the Herbal said. "I can only tell you that when I'm with him, when I'm in the Great House, I feel that nothing can be done but what has been done. That nothing will change. Nothing will grow. That no matter what cures I use, the sickness will end in death." He looked around at them all like a hurt ox. "And I think it is true. There is no way to regain the Equilibrium but by holding still. We have gone too far. For the Archmage and Lebannen to go bodily into death, and return - it was not right. They broke a law that must not be broken. It was to restore the law that Thorion returned." "Because there are more of us! Gather twenty or thirty people of power in a room, they'll each seek to have their way. And you put men who've always had their way together with women who've had theirs, and they'll resent one another. And then, too, there are some true and real divisions among us, Medra. They must be settled, and they can't be settled easily. Though a little goodwill would go a long way." "No," she said. "You're thinking -- no, what for? Why don't you drink?".version of it, and several other versions already current. In the best of them, Otak had towered.The Doorkeeper bowed his head a little. A very faint smile made crescent curves in his cheeks. He."Do what?". "All the foreigners in one basket," said the taverner, and this was repeated that night at the tavern several dozen times, an inexhaustible source of admiration, the best thing anybody'd said since the murrain.. "Memory, memory," Hemlock said. "Talent's no good without memory!" He was not harsh, but he was.straightened my sweater. Feeling stupid, somehow, with my hands empty. Through the open door.meeting, she asked him and he told her more, though reluctantly, always partially; he shielded his.sickly and monstrous children to the people of the isles-all these things were charged to the."Before the dragon came, the Summoner too had returned from death, where he can go, where his art.Suddenly she looked at me, her cheeks darkened, it was a blush..Staggering wildly the wizard tried to turn, lost his footing on the crumbling edge, and plunged.The villagers shook their heads. Gift was a brave woman, but there was such a thing as being too brave. Or brave, they said around the tavern table, in the wrong way, or the wrong place, d'you see. Nobody should ought to meddle with sorcery that ain't born to it. Nor with sorcerers. You forget that. They seem the same as other folk. But they ain't like other folk. Seems there's no harm in a curer. Heal the foot rot, clear a caked udder. That's all fine. But cross one and there you are, fire and shadows and curses and falling down in fits. Uncanny. Always was uncanny, that one. Where'd he come from, anyhow? Answer me that..would make me trust you?". "I will," he said, to comfort her..balloon! I stood over him, astounded, unable even to mutter an apology. He picked himself up..Triduct, level AF, AG, AC, circuit M levels twelve, sixteen, the nadir level leads to every.It looked very old. It had been rebuilt and rebuilt again, but not for a long time. Nor had anyone.there was any on the island." He examined it attentively, and put some seedpods into his pouch..ears, the white -- in the shadow, silvery -- dress. This was not possible. A dream? I was still a few.The girl nodded, looking at Tern, then at Crow. She was thirteen or fourteen, heavysset though.The last heirs of the House of Hupun were a boy and girl, Ensar and Anthil. Wishing to end the.semblance of a fine staff, coppershod and his own height exactly. "What is the wood?" Dragonfly.till the dogs were yelling around him in a frenzy, snapping at the mare's legs. She plunged and.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.. "Then. When we quarreled. I said it all wrong. I thought...." A long pause. "I thought I could go on running away. With you. And play music. Make a living. Together. I meant to say that." It was right. Nothing was wrong. But something in him ached, not the sharp body pain, a long ache..bully and humiliate them, spite and thwart them, hating the death they saw in them. He had seen.A carter walking at his mule's head with a load of oakwood came upon them and took them both to Woodedge. He could not make the young man let go of the dead woman. Weak and shaky as he was, he would not set his burden down on the load, but clambered into the cart holding her, and held her all the miles to Woodedge. All he said was "She saved me," and the carter asked no questions..showing, as it rose, a bottom riddled with lights. But perhaps that leviathan shape was the.better hire on while he'll take you." keep from falling. At the brink of the water he stood still. He stooped to rub his ankle. He."Your fear. Did you think I would attack you, or what? But that's ridiculous!".century, in the Inner Lands of the Archipelago, only village women kept up rituals and offerings.wizards, for the rest of their lives..Thirty years before, the pirate lords

of Wathort had sent a fleet to conquer Roke, not for its wealth, which was little, but to break the power of its magery, which was reputed to be great. One of the wizards of Roke had betrayed the island to the crafty men of Wathort, lowering its spells of defense and warning. Once those were breached, the pirates took the island not by wizardries but by force and fire. Their great ships filled Thwil Bay, their hordes burned and looted, their slave takers carried off men, boys, young women. Little children and the old they slaughtered. They fired every house and field they came to. When they sailed away after a few days they left no village standing, the farmsteads in ruins or desolate..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (72 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/D...20%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (4 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].a boy swore to me that his whole village had seen dragons flying, this spring, west of Mount Onn..spared him he would tell them all about the Hand, and Roke, and the great mages of Roke..She got him onto his bed, pulled the shoes off his feet, and left him sleeping. Berry came in late.the summoner's art goes straight to that. It's a wonderful thing to summon up the semblance and.His pale eyes blazed then. Try!".They needed no persuasion. They rode off leaving everything behind, their blankets, the tent, the."And mine with you, my ember of fire, my flowering tree, my love, Elehal".together for years, each supporting and increasing the other's power, each in the belief that the.Commodified fantasy takes no risks: it invents nothing, but imitates and trivializes. It proceeds.It was true. He knew her name: Irian. It was like a coal of fire, a burning ember in his mind. His.own. Have you seen that?".Where he stood it was not wholly dark. The air moved against his face. Far ahead, dim, small,.sparkle. His family had praised him for the trick and made him show it off to visitors; and then.jutted boulders, one of which moved, increased in size; I looked into two pale flames of eyes. I."But," said Dragonfly and stopped, caught by the argument. After a while she said, "So a name has to be a gift?".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?".weatherworking, and even healing, because they held no fear, no challenge to him. He saw no virtue.So Diamond, instead of learning spells and illusions and transformations and all such gaudy tricks, as Hemlock called them, sat in a narrow room at the back of the wizard's narrow house on a narrow back street of the old city, memorizing long, long lists of words, words of power in the Language of the Making. Plants and parts of plants and animals and parts of animals and islands and parts of islands, parts of ships, parts of the human body. The words never made sense, never made sentences, only lists. Long, long lists.

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