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name? Or a creeping traitorous sorcerous servant of those upstart landgrabbers who stole Westpool, photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in this man, I had begun to see in my mind's eye a great mountain, a broken cone, with a long, green. he knew all too well how Roke was guarded. He knew neither he nor the weatherworker could do. "Nais. How old are you?" wizard, not in apparition but as a presence in his mind. "What else can you do, Diamond?" he asked. pit, great heaps of gravel and clay. Turning his sore head made him dizzy. opened and entered a great cavern. But though the roots of Roke are the roots of all the islands. A BOAT-SONG FROM WEST HAVNOR. the bodies of his men till they "living, seemed the black thirst-dead of the desert." To spare his. first. I blinked. The hall, brightly lit, was practically empty; she walked to the next door. When I. "But power - like you told me about - that isn't the same as making people do what you want, or pay you -". They walked a half-mile or so. The Knoll rose up full in the western sun on their right. Behind them the School sprawled grey and many-roofed on its lower hill. The grove of trees towered before them now. She saw oak and willow, chestnut and ash, and tall evergreens. From the dense, sun-shot darkness of the trees a stream ran out, green-banked, with many brown trodden places where cattle and sheep went down to drink or to cross over. They had come through the stile from a pasture where fifty or sixty sheep grazed the short, bright turf, and now stood near the stream. That house," said the mage, pointing to a low, moss-ridden roof half-hidden by the afternoon shadows of the trees. "Stay tonight. You will?" killed the people who worked in the tower. Otter had never entered it nor seen Licky enter it. He ships, leading them, gazing into the west for the sight of that hill. tell you, peddler, she has an open hand. Though perhaps not all of us do. "She saved me but I couldn't save her," he said fiercely to the men and women of the mountain. Gelluk pressed close beside him, often taking his arm. "This way," he said several times. "Yes. Highdrake took Medra as his student, gratefully. "I was taught my art by a mage who gave me freely. back against the immense trunk of the oak, and stared into the forest for a while. It was late. looked at me, and reddened terribly. little valley called Trimmer's Dell, the true name of which in the language of the Making was stank and their town stank. He disliked going aboard a slave ship, but the only vessel going out. They let him walk among them, wild as they were and having had nothing from men's hands but castration and butchery. He had a pleasure in their trust in him, a pride in it. He should not, but he did. If he wanted to touch one of the great beasts he had only to stand and speak to it a little while in the language of those who do not speak. "Ulla," he said, naming them. "Ellu. Ellua." They stood, big, indifferent; sometimes one looked at him for a long time. Sometimes one came to him with its easy, loose, majestic tread, and breathed into his open palm. All those that came to him he could cure. He laid his hands on them, on the stiff-haired, hot flanks and neck, and sent the healing into his hands with the words of power spoken over and over. After a while the beast would give a shake, or toss its head a bit, or step on. And he would drop his hands and stand there, drained and blank, for a while. Then there would be another one, big, curious, shyly bold, muddy-coated, with the sickness in it like a prickling, a tingling, a hotness in his hands, a dizziness. "Ellu," he would say, and walk to the beast and lay his hands upon it until they felt cool, as if a mountain stream ran through them. Irioth did not say yes, or no, or thanks, but went off unspeaking. The cattleman looked after him and spat. "Avert," he said. up whatever they could in the way of coppers and free beer. Any festivity drew itinerant. similar to my sweater but with a full, inflated collar sat sideways at a table, a glass in his hand, the Archipelago. which yielded elastically. In flight, I must have had a none-too-intelligent expression on my face. Irian looked down at the ground. After a long time she said, clearing her throat, not looking up. In Veil's words he saw, all at once, the other side of Ember's impatience, her fierceness, her silences. know. In the distance the surrounding space kept being pierced by streaks of vehicles unknown to. "What's the matter, Emer?" said the curer, turning his thin face and strange eyes to her. millennia before that. Its thirty-one stanzas tell how Segoy raised the islands of Earthsea in the. slightly, a shiver, a tremble. not here to fool anybody, but to learn what I need to know. "I did fly." Enlades. Though it is one of the great isles of the Earthsea Archipelago, there aren't many. and kicked his shoes off. He stood still and felt the dust and rock of the cliff-top path under. a little afraid of him. But Otter's distress was too great and his training too slight for him to. "My son, there is no reason," she said, suddenly passionate, "there is no reason why you should. "To hell with the biologist. Does this mean that a man to whom you've given brit can't do. capital of the Kargad Empire and treated with King Thoreg as its ruler. "Trust," the young man said. "Yes. But against- Against them?- Gelluk's gone. Maybe Losen will fall now. Will it make any difference? Will the slaves go free? Will beggars eat? Will justice be done? I think there's an evil in us, in humankind. Trust denies it. Leaps across it. Leaps the chasm. But it's there. And everything we do finally serves evil, because that's what we are. Greed and cruelty. I look at the world, at the forests and the mountain here, the sky, and it's all right, as it should be. But we aren't. People aren't. We're wrong. We do wrong. No animal does wrong. How could they? But we can, and we do. And we never stop." were everywhere, though ranged in some order. Near the fine stone fireplace, where a tiny wisp of. "Go with the water," said Ayo. A child ran bawling to its mammy. No one else was about. But Early turned his head, still with. like an old shoe. I'll join you this evening." And he was gone. me there. I decided not to go." file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (69 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. and your fiefdom on Hosk, the greatest navy the world has seen! I shall lead them. And the glory. It was Golden's grandest party yet, with a dancing floor built on the town green down the way from. light?" But he could not. He crawled in the dark till the sound of water was loud and the rocks. spoke to her, and in his mind she answered, her voice, her husky voice saying his name, "Diamond." I will," said Ivory, with a wink at Dragonfly. She, well disguised in dirt and a farmhand's old. calling themselves Irian. But though the farmers and

shepherds went on from season to season and pure, making his subjects pure!" He drew Otter to the edge of the roasting pit. His eyes shone in the high pasture, in the noon light, Heleth opened his arms wide in the gesture of invocation that thousand years ago his hand, and rule with his guidance, as Morred ruled. No witches will defile sacred ground. No. A pause. "This," Diamond said. His voice was level. He looked neither at his father nor his mother.. authority except the King in Havnor.. get here?". Woodedge. He could not make the young man let go of the dead woman. Weak and shaky as he was, he. The Namer, the Doorkeeper, and the Herbal followed him with her into the Grove. There was a path. "Beginnings," said Tern.. "Can I know the secret?" he asked after a while.. He went on to the foot of the street. It opened into a small market square. People were gathered.. however well sung, wrecks the tune it isn't part of. Women teach women. Witches learn their craft. "Master Hand," said the Doorkeeper, "she asked to enter as a student, and I saw no reason to deny. Ember was on the dock to meet him. Lame and very thin, he came to her and took her hands, but he. He did as he often did, made a little design out of whatever lay to hand: on the bit of sand on. is it?". "Of course. It was my responsibility as your teacher.". "From a distance, you seemed so. . ." She was unable to find the word.. that from there, from behind the glass plate, some giant face was grimacing at me, meditating. There was an uncomfortable silence, as the Doorkeeper did not speak. At last a slight, bright-eyed.. werelight shot through by silver lines of rain. When she stumbled he caught her arm. After that.. ducked down frantically, but felt the cool fire tingle in her hair as it passed over her. The. Dulse thought sometimes in those years about sons and fathers. He had quarreled with his own father, a sorcerer-prospecter, over his choice of a teacher; his father had shouted that a student of Ard's was no son of his, had nursed his rage and died unforgiving.. "Don't you understand?" he said, exasperated with her for not understanding, because he had not understood. "A wizard can't have anything to do with women. With witches. With all that.". "What brought you here, Azver?" the Namer asked. "I've often thought of asking you. A long, long way to come. And you have no wizards in the Kargish lands, I think.". "You weren't?". women of the Hand, who are forgotten everywhere else in the world, even on Roke, but remembered.. miners forbade it, earnestly believing it was the worst of bad luck for a man to pick up a shovel.. think of her, to think of her that night, but she faded away. By the time he opened the door of.. might make a good prentice, here in the palace. Maybe he could go to Roke after all, for Early was.. hearth, skillfully making up the fire. The curer was in his room asleep. She looked in, and closed.. He gave a sharp look at his staff, which leaned in the corner behind the door. He put the eggs in the larder, ate an apple quickly because he was hungry, and took his staff. It was yew, bound at the foot with copper, worn to silk at the grip. Nemmerle had given it to him.. black and colored eggs. Above all this, through the mist of the distance, I saw words of gold.. Early had them put to death along with the man who reported them to him. It was a public. "They don't need a weatherworker on a night like this, and they haven't paid me yet," Medra said.. him. He drew closer to Irian. He felt the warmth of her body. She stood staring, in that animal.. loose, she looked up and saw on the bank above her the black figure of a man.. "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 -". severity. "As I see it, the man who brought you here meant to do harm, but you do not. Yet being.. the sunshine of morning with his arms in the air.. "You never sent to me, you never let me send to you, all the time you were gone. I was just.. Since the coronation of King Lebannen and the restoration of the High Courts and Councils in Havnor Great Port, Roke has remained without an archmage. It appears that this office, not originally part of the governance of the school or of the Archipelago, is no longer useful or appropriate, and that Ged, whom many call the greatest of the arch-mages, may have been the last.. very lonesome. He looked for a lane or path leading to the town, but there never was one that went.. After him Otter climbed the winding stairs, broad at first but growing tight and narrow, passing vapor chambers with red-hot ovens whose vents led up to refining rooms where the soot from the burnt ore was scraped down by naked slaves and shoveled into ovens to be burnt again. They came to the topmost room. Gelluk said to the single slave crouching at the rim of the shaft, "Show me the King!". "I just sort of found out," said the boy, evidently not sure if his father approved.. "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...". what you ask, and for that we ask your forgiveness. But if you seek to stay here you forfeit.. 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.. valuable, and though the young king was putting things to rights as fast as he could, there were.. The Herbal, and I too, judged the Summoner dead. We thought the breath he breathed was left from.. cliffs he could not climb. He made the spell and said the word once more, and as a sea tern flew.. trying to clean his legs. "Dirt, dirt," he said, gently patting the ground he sat on. Then, very.. neared the western plains, they stopped at a farmhouse that offered stabling for the horses, a.. stuff in the middle was sharply seasoned. I was going to like borses, I decided.. "There, you see -- did you know in which direction the water flowed before it. . . ?". This speech, innate to dragons, can be learned by human beings. Some few people are born with

an.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (79 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. was empty, clear. She stood still and her soul seemed to go into that sky and be gone, gone out of.. huge black drops of liquid. Cars or not -- I thought -- in any case this appears to be some kind of.. the Archipelago-perhaps to avenge the Firelord. These fiery flights caused great terror, and.. thing in a dangerous element, vulnerable to spells and hexes. As soon as Hound came aboard the new.. When he was Gelluk's prentice and assistant, he had encouraged his master in the study of the lore of Way, finding himself free while Gelluk was off doting on his quicksilver. But

Gelluk's abrupt fate had shaken him. There was something mysterious in it, some element or some person missing. Summoning the useful Hound to help him, Early had made a very thorough inquiry into what happened. Where Gelluk was, of course, was no mystery. Hound had tracked him straight to a scar in a hillside, and said he was buried deep under there. Early had no wish to exhume him. But the boy who had been with him, Hound could not track: could not say whether he was under that hill with Gelluk, or had got clean away. He had left no spell traces as the mage did, said Hound, and it had rained very hard all the night after, and when Hound thought he had found the boy's tracks, they were a woman's; and she was dead..room with the spellbonds upon him he could hardly swallow the food. It tasted of metal, of ash..made no objection. She turned her long, creamy-white nose and beautiful eyes to look at her rider..wouldn't. "Stay here while you can," she said..and charms to ensure the good outcome of such undertakings was shared among the witches. But when..he went into the west, sent by the king to defeat or drive back a brood of dragons who had been..few steps he doubled over and vomited on the ground..Dulse had sent students on to the School, three or four of them, nice lads with a gift for this or that; but the one Nemmerle waited for had come and gone of his own will, and what they had thought of him on Roke Dulse did not know. Silence did not say. He had learned there in two or three years what some boys learned in six or seven and many never learned at all, but to him it had been mere groundwork.."Anyone.".Otter stood motionless, effaced, as Anieb had stood in the room in the tower..haze, now by a nearly white one. That was all, that was how the city looked; I tried to find streets,..All day he stayed near the Otter's House, keeping watch on Irian, making her eat a little with him. She came to the house, but when they had eaten she went back to her place on the streambank and sat there motionless. And he too felt a lethargy in his own body and mind, a stupidity, which he fought against but could not shake off. He thought of the Summoner's eyes, and then it was that he felt cold, cold through, though he was sitting in the full heat of the summer's day. We are ruled by the dead, he thought. The thought would not leave him..And the Lord of Gont Port had tried once again to get Dulse to come down to do what needed doing

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