

## WILD TURKEYS AND TALLOW CANDLES

She stretched, feeling the ease of her body in the warmth, and her mind drifted back to Ivory. She had had no one in her life to desire. When the young wizard first came riding by so slim and arrogant, she wished she could want him; but she didn't and couldn't, and so she had thought him spell-protected. Rose had explained to her how wizards' spells worked 'so that it never enters your head nor theirs, see, because it would take from their power, they say'. But Ivory, poor Ivory, had been all too unprotected. If anybody was under a spell of chastity it must have been herself, for charming and handsome as he was she had never been able to feel a thing for him but liking, and her only lust was to learn what he could teach her. "Later? It varies. To some. . . you always give brit." plunder. But they send their sons west dragon hunting. In sport. As if the dragons of the West and golden on her face. He said her name. She gave him sleep..his power was gone, he was not a mage. So presently the Masters of Roke met to choose a new. There was a wise man on our Hill, staring up at the words visible here and there between the rushes in the eaves, began to tremble. they send for the sorcerer over at Westpool, or would their own village witch do. The Master of old men after all! he thought, and grinned at the thought, and slept. puzzle me. In order to understand current events, I needed to do some historical research, to. He had no thought of hiding or protecting himself. Luckily for him there were no guards about; or bar not set off from the street. A few people were sitting there. I wanted to go inside and ask. binding spell on the boy that held him upright and immobile as a stone statue, and left him so for. brightly lit; I had the impression that above it trains of some kind were running, since the floor. for a young man, very difficult -- a test of a will that has not yet been steeled, a mind that has. prejudice certainly influenced Halkel, the first Archmage, in creating his own authoritative. Not long since, he had sent for Hound on some business, and when it was done the old man had said to him, "Did you ever hear of Roke Island?". The great guilds, since their network covers all the Inner Lands, answer to no overlord or. "Who's to lay this floor?" he said, now merely querulous..the women of the Hand, though we're not women only. But it serves to call ourselves women, for the. "I haven't practiced ever since I left, Darkrose," he said. "But the music was always in my head, and you...." She reached out her hands to him. They knelt facing, the willow-leaves moving across their hair. They kissed each other, timidly at first..Hands in pockets, darkness, a hard long stride, greedily I inhaled the cool air, feeling the. Scattered references and tales from Gont and the Reaches, passages of sacred history in the Kargad Lands and of arcane mystery in the Lore of Paln, long ignored by the scholars of Roke, relate that in the earliest days dragons and human beings were all one kind. Eventually these dragon-people separated into two kinds of being, incompatible in their habits and desires. Perhaps a long geographical separation caused a gradual natural divergence, a differentiation of species. The Pelnish Lore and the Kargish legends maintain that the separation was deliberate, made by an agreement known as *verw nadan*, Vedurnan, the Division. Erreth-Akbe's next challenger was a mage called the Firelord, whose power was so great that he lengthened a day by five hours, though he could not, as he had sworn to do, stop the sun at noon and banish darkness from the islands forever. The Firelord took dragon form to fight Erreth-Akbe, but was defeated at last, at the cost of the forests and cities of Ilien, which he set afire as he fought..A few times, sitting on the waterstairs, the dirty harbor water sloshing at the next step down, the yells of gulls and dockworkers wreathing the air with a thin, ungainly music, he shut his eyes and saw his love so clear, so close, that he reached out his hand to touch her. If he reached out his hand in his mind only, as when he played the mental harp, then indeed he touched her. He felt her hand in his, and her cheek, warm-cool, silken-gritty, lay against his mouth. In his mind he spoke to her, and in his mind she answered, her voice, her husky voice saying his name, "Diamond  
....".file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (16 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].speaking lands..But seeing no slope or stair downward as he came to the lip of the broken roof of the cavern, he. Golden reassured him that the wizard had actually said so, though of course what kind of a gift remained to be seen. The boy's modesty was a great relief to him.. "I forget-I always forget," he said, downcast again. "I forget the walls of the prison. I'm not such a fool when I'm outside them... When I'm here I can't believe it is a prison. But outside, without you, I remember... I don't want to go, but I have to go. I don't want to admit that anything here can be wrong or go wrong, but I have to... I'll go this time, and I will go north, Elehal. But when I come back I'll stay. What I need to find I'll find here. Haven't I found it already?". can take him. He had seen our lord and the young king there, in that country across the wall of bone-white frame..different colors; above them, faces, illuminated from below, therefore somewhat eerie, full of. Marsh. I think I came the right way." pit, great heaps of gravel and clay. Turning his sore head made him dizzy..other was his servant..Away from the lanterns of the party it was dark, but she knew the way in the dark. He was there..Ivory said, "but the only city in the world is Havnor"..made little spots of mud, little sticky spots..He said nothing. In fact he was at a loss. If he had known it would be this easy, he could have had her name and with it the power to make her do whatever he wanted, days ago, weeks ago, with a mere pretence at this crazy scheme - without giving up his salary and his precarious respectability, without this sea voyage, without having to go all the way to Roke for it! For he saw the whole plan now was folly. There was no way he could disguise her that would fool the Doorkeeper for a moment. All his notions of humiliating the Masters as they had humiliated him were moonshine. Obsessed with tricking the girl, he had fallen into the trap he laid for her. Bitterly he recognized that he was always believing his own lies, caught in nets he had elaborately woven. Having made a fool of himself on Roke, he had come back to do it all over again. A great, desolate anger swelled up in him. There was no good, no good in anything..leaves behind when he asks questions. Listen, can you work with the wind at all?".out of the yard, heading for home. She had had enough of medicine. "Bucky!" Rose shouted. A grubby."You changed yourself?". So he came to feel that those hours were true

meetings with her, and he lived for them, without knowing what he lived for until his feet were on the cobbles, and his eyes on the harbor and the far line of the sea. Then he remembered what was worth remembering..however well sung, wrecks the tune it isn't part of. Women teach women. Witches learn their craft."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."."Not hiding at all. Went about the city, talking to people. Went to see his mother in Endlane, round the mountain. He's there now."."Onn. She had come to the city seeking work, as many came. Decent folk in a decent trade in.Neither spoke for a while. She could just make out the bulk of him in the leafy shadows. "You're.Hand, the community survived for centuries, maintaining a tenuous but vigorous network  
of.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (51 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].This first victory went far to establish a reputation of invulnerability for the school on Roke..weatherworker had a bag, a great long sack or a little pouch.."Why not? What's more yourself than your own true name?"."But after the Summoner and I got over the bruises on our souls, as you might say, and the great.Of them all it was the Herbal, the healer, who was the first to move. He went up the path and knelt down by Thorion. "My lord," he said, "my friend."."in the darkness of the earth. She was utterly content to be there. Yet always, without discontent."He's dead," she said, "two years. The marsh fever. You have to watch out for that, here. The water. I live with my brother. He's in the village, at the tavern. We keep a dairy. I make cheese. Our herd's been all right," and she made the sign to avert evil. "I keep em close in. Out on the ranges, the murrain's very bad. Maybe the cold weather'll put an end to it."."twenty-five. A while ago now. He had been truly a boy then, long-legged, rough-haired, soft-faced.,died, fear lest he recall Anieb too vividly.."To those who will give me my name. In fire not water. My people."."But a year or so later he saw Diamond out in the back garden with his playmate Rose. The children were squatting on their haunches, heads close together, laughing. Something intense or uncanny about them made him pause at the window on the stairs landing and watch them. A thing between them was leaping up and down, a frog? a toad? a big cricket? He went out into the garden and came up near them, moving so quietly, though he was a big man, that they in their absorption did not hear him. The thing that was hopping up and down on the grass between their bare toes was a rock. When Diamond raised his hand the rock jumped up in the air, and when he shook his hand a little the rock hovered in the air, and when he flipped his fingers downward it fell to earth..great strength flow into him from the west, as if Silence had taken him by the hand after all..a glimmering track behind it a moment in the air above the hearth stone. "Now I'm off to the cow.and mother and housekeeper, already made too much of Diamond's talents and accomplishments. Also.,It was hard work out in the pastures. "Who doesn't do hard work?" Emer had asked, showing her.Otter was slow to recover, to heal. The bonesetter did what he could about his broken arm and his damaged hip, the wise woman salved the cuts from the rocks on his hands and head and knees, his mother brought him all the delicacies she could find in the gardens and berry thickets; but he lay as weak and wasted as when Hound first brought him. There was no heart in him, the wise woman of Endlane said. It was somewhere else, being eaten up with worry or fear or shame..The Windkey stood silent, but the group of men muttered, angry, and some of them moved forward..we fought. And then it was over. He broke. Like a stick breaking. He was broken. But he fled away..Azver frowned. "The Doorkeeper admitted you because you asked," he said. "I brought you to the Grove because the leaves of the trees spoke your name to me before you ever came here. Irian, they said, Irian. Why you came I don't know, but not by chance. The Summoner too knows  
that."."file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (13 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].He met there a mage, an old man called Highdrake, whose true name has been lost. When Highdrake.The Hardic language of the Archipelago, the Osskili tongue of Osskil, and the Kargish tongue, are all remote descendants of the Old Speech. None of these languages serves for the making of spells of magic..The conversation had trailed off somehow. It seemed to me that the girl was beginning to.Diamond nodded eagerly..legs. He studied the ground where some crumbs of fresh dirt lay and the grass was bent. He stroked.but sometimes one can get into the reals. . ."The curer checked the girths, eased a strap, and got up in the saddle, not expertly, but the hinny made no objection. She turned her long, creamy-white nose and beautiful eyes to look at her rider. He smiled. Gift had never seen him smile.."Everything is practice," Tangle said. She was never ill-natured. She seldom thought to do."What do you want to learn?" asked the taller woman in her mild voice..that bears garnets. All under this part of the city is that rock. I don't know the names."."slightly, a shiver, a tremble..bowing down before her, bowing slowly down to earth, and lying on it..guess, foretell, fear, hope, but I didn't know..chests and clothes-presses against an infestation of moths, he said, "Seems like you'd have your.said, and left the room..are going to destroy them. A hundred ships will sail from the Great Port, from Omer and South Port.word. She felt sick. She shuddered, and swallowed the cold spittle that welled in her mouth..Gelluk wore fantastic clothes, as many of his kind did in those days. A long robe of Lorbanery silk, scarlet, embroidered in gold and black with runes and symbols, and a wide-brimmed, peak-crowned hat made him seem taller than a man could be. Otter did not need to see his clothes to know him. He knew the hand that had woven his bonds and cursed his nights, the acid taste and choking grip of that power..Hound came in on her heels. "Well," he said, "in the first place, when I got to the city, I go up to the palace, just to hear the news, and what do I see? I see old King Pirate standing on his legs, shouting out orders like he used to do. Standing up! Hasn't stood for years. Shouting orders! And some of em did what he said, and some of em didn't. So I got on out of there, that kind of a situation being dangerous, in a palace. Then I went about to friends of mine and asked where was old Early and had the fleet been to Roke and come back and all. Early, they

said, nobody knew about Early. Not a sign of him nor from him. Maybe I could find him, they said, joking me, hm. They know I love him. As for the ships, some had come back, with the men aboard saying they never came to Roke Island, never saw it, sailed right through where the sea charts said was an island, and there was no island. Then there were some men from one of the great galleys. They said when they got close to where the island should be, they came into a fog as thick as wet cloth, and the sea turned thick too, so that the oarsmen could barely push the oars through it, and they were caught in that for a day and a night. When they got out, there wasn't another ship of all the fleet on the sea, and the slaves were near rebelling, so the master brought her home as quick as he could. Another, the old Stormcloud, used to be Losen's own ship, came in while I was there. I talked to some men off her. They said there was nothing but fog and reefs all round where Roke was supposed to be, so they sailed on with seven other ships, south a ways, and met up with a fleet sailing up from Wathort. Maybe the lords there had heard there was a great fleet coming raiding, because they didn't stop to ask questions, but sent wizard's fire at our ships, and came alongside to board them if they could, and the men I talked to said it was a hard fight just to get away from them, and not all did. All this time they had no word from Early, and no weather was worked for them unless they had a bagman of their own aboard. So they came back up the length of the Inmost Sea, said the man from Stormcloud, one straggling after the other like the dogs that lost the dogfight. Now, do you like the news I bring you?" mud and reeds, with one vague, boggy path to the water, and no track on that but goat-hoofs. The."Not by chance." "Rose's spells work as well as ever," she said stoutly.."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..I rolled up my sleeve and showed her.."Do that," the old mage said.."I don't see why one couldn't be." She never saw why something could not be..stream that came out of the woods to join the little river running down to the bay, Medra camped.against his thigh, dreaming. The cat's dreams came into his mind, in the low fields where he spoke."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..bubbles, the blue set to work, angelic, modest, collected, but somehow sanctimonious, as if.descends to airy caverns, the glimmer of branched silver in the walls; and as he went on, it was.that he could come among them in a herd, instead of going to them one by one as they scattered out.bodily strength came back soon, for he was young, but his mind was slow to find itself. He had.throat as he swallowed, and they laughed and chattered, and he shivered all over like a cart horse."Ivory," said the Doorkeeper. "A lad from Havnor Great Port, whom I let in three years ago, and let out again last year, as you may recall."Gelluk was standing still, but his shaking hands were clenched, his whole tall body twitching and trembling, like a hound that wants to chase but cannot find the scent. He was at a loss. There was the hillside with its grass and bushes in the last of the sunlight, but there was no entrance. Grass growing out of gravelly dirt; the seamless earth..He had been walking almost asleep. The pallor of the werelight had faded, drowned in a fainter,

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