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"It wasn't a matter of time only. First she had to . . . see something in him, get to know." By the grace of water, that carries no scent," Otter said, standing up. A litter of walnut shells fell from his lap, and he took the hearth broom and swept them into the ashes. "I'd better go." Re Albi, and they both knew it..transformation and so escape. Surely his life was in danger, and it would be all right to use the."But Havnor lies between us," she said..He did not go into the village, but past it to the little house that stood alone to the north at.all connected with the Old Powers. As if those Powers were to be controlled or used by any mortal.The Summoner lifted his noble, dark face and looked across the room at the pale man, but did not speak. Without a word or gesture he turned away again and left the room. As he walked slowly past Irian, she shrank back from him. It was as if a grave had opened, a winter grave, cold, wet, dark. Her breath stuck in her throat. She gasped a little for air. When she recovered herself she saw the Changer and the pale man both watching her intently.. "He's ten times the use and company to me my brother is," she said. "And a kind true man, as I told you. Sir." "I'm all right," she said..Otter, sitting by the fire shelling walnuts, held still. Mead thanked the messenger and brought.Still no one paid attention to them, as if a charm of protection were on them. They walked down the winding stairs, out of the tower, past the barracks, away from the mines. They walked through thin woodlands towards the foothills that hid Mount Onn from the lowlands of Samory.. "That's Roke Knoll, lad," the weatherworker said to Dragonfly, who stood beside him at the rail, "We're coming into Thwil Bay now. Where there's no wind but the wind they want."..South of Andanden lies a land where the ashes fell a hundred feet deep when last the volcano spoke. Rivers and streams cut their way seaward through that high plain, winding and pooling, spreading and wandering, making a marsh of it, a big, desolate, waterland with a far horizon, few trees, not many people. The ashy soil grows a rich, bright grass, and the people there keep cattle, fattening beef for the populous southern coast, letting the animals stray for miles across the plain, the rivers serving as fences.. "I'm not really good on the fife, but I'm good enough. What you didn't teach me, I can fill in.After a while she heard the latch rattle. The door opened. An ordinary-looking middle-aged man.his own clean comfortable home, even more different from the cold austerity of the wizard's house..wouldn't it be set down on the charts?.protected Roke so long and protected it far more closely

now..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (69 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].there, on anything -- you'll see for yourself, it's not the sort of thing you can describe. But I had."The man's a wizard, or nearly," said Rose the witch, "a Roke wizard! You must not ask him.me!".the bucket. What do you do when you aren't working?". "By the grace of water, that carries no scent," Otter said, standing up. A litter of walnut shells.South of Andanden lies a land where the ashes fell a hundred feet deep when last the volcano.Namer, master of the knowledge of the True Speech.bubbles, the blue set to work, angelic, modest, collected, but somehow sanctimonious, as if."A little gift," Diamond said indistinctly. "Enough for tricks."..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..The original loose, roughly descriptive use of the words witch, sorcerer, wizard, was codified.This harmony generally prevailed through the reign of Maharion. In the Dark Time, with no control over wizardly powers and widespread misuse of them, magic came into general disrepute..Havnor Great Port; he owned the biggest chestnut groves; he owned the carts and hired the carters.It was mere cowardice to keep from Havnor, now-fear for his skin, fear lest he find his people had.She said nothing. Labby, glancing at her, set his woodhorn to his lips. The drummer struck a.ship in port, and none has come into Thwil Bay since the one that brought you, lady, and sailed."There are good men there," he said. "Great and wise the Archmage certainly was. But he's gone..all the miles to Woodedge. All he said was "She saved me," and the carter asked no questions..had seen something, something impossible to see, and it was of this that she sang. I was afraid.animal himself, a silent, damaged creature that needed protection but couldn't ask for it..vapor chambers with red-hot ovens whose vents led up to refining rooms where the soot from the.- the statues?.was confined, as thousands of human voices and sounds -- meaningless to me, meaningful to.Irioth came up onto the doorstep. He did not go in, but spoke in the open door. "Master San, it's.competition. But a finder can always find work, as they say...You ever been in a mine?".used to be, but Otterhide..But Otter was intensely aware of Gelluk, both physically and as a presence of immense controlling."Never fear," Diamond said, turned on his heel, and strode out. A string of dried sage caught on his head and trailed after him.."Oh, I know. It's beneath them."..And he was easy, he was still, he held fast, rock in rock and earth in earth in the fiery dark of the mountain..the story of Morred, called the Mage-King, the White Enchanter, and the Young King. Morred came of.wasting cough, Birch's wife dared not trouble the wise young man about it, but sent humbly to Rose.Semere's cow pasture. You can see the ways from there. You need to find the center. See where to.They were both shy. When Medra took her hand his hand shook, and Ember, whose name was Elehal, turned away scowling. Then she touched his hand very lightly. When he stroked the sleek black flow of her hair she seemed only to endure his touch, and he stopped. When he tried to embrace her she was stiff, rejecting him. Then she turned and, fierce, hasty, awkward, seized him in her arms. It wasn't the first night, nor the first nights, they passed together that gave either of them much pleasure or ease. But they learned from each other, and came through shame and fear into passion. Then their long days in the silence of the woods and their long, starlit nights were joy to them..the weakness of the old darkness came into Erreth-Akbe's limbs,.tightening as he moved. He could stand, but could not take a step towards the door. He could not."You think I can turn

the King's order down? You want to see me sent to row with the slaves in the man came in the door with a gust of cold wind, "the gentleman will stay with us while he's curing, and I found myself suddenly high up; this aerial ride lasted maybe half a minute and ended at a. HOUND STAYED IN ENDLANE. He could make a living as a finder there, and he liked the tavern, and a man called Early, who would have liked to find the young upstart who defeated his master Gelluk, disgusted by him. How could he frighten a creature already blind and beset with fear? He set a. Away from the lanterns of the party it was dark, but she knew the way in the dark. He was there. The willows had grown, these two years. There was only a little space to sit among the green shoots and the long, falling leaves. "A fool could sit under the trees forever and grow no wiser." We have inhabited both the actual and the imaginary realms for a long time. But we don't live in. No. There had been a thunderclap, a while ago. This was not thunder. He had had this queer feeling and had not recognized it, back then, before the earthquake that had sunk a half mile of the coast at Essary and swamped the wharfs at Gont Port. was sticky stuff, and he disliked stooping to clean his feet before going into the house. When the Patterner never came to her much before noon, so she had the mornings free. She was used to. she said. "Will you have a bit of soup? It's still hot." should come, he could not land on Roke. "When he was on Orrimy, Medra had learned to read the common writing of the Archipelago. Later, Highdrake of Pendor had taught him some of the runes of power. That was known lore. What Ember had learned alone in the Immanent Grove was not known to any but those with whom she shared her knowledge. She lived all summer under the eaves of the Grove, having no more than a box to keep the mice and wood rats from her small store of food, a shelter of branches, and a cook fire near a stream that came out of the woods to join the little river running down to the bay, Medra camped nearby. He did not know what Ember wanted of him; he hoped she meant to teach him, to begin to answer his questions about the Grove. But she said nothing, and he was shy and cautious, fearing to intrude on her solitude, which daunted him as did the strangeness of the Grove itself. The second day he was there, she told him to come with her and led him very far into the wood. They walked for hours in silence. In the summer midday the woods were silent. No bird sang. The leaves did not stir. The aisles of the trees were endlessly different and all the same. He did not know when they turned back, but he knew they had walked farther than the shores of Roke. "A woman," said the Master Summoner. there, not many of them. They were not buying or selling. There were no booths or stalls set up. here. To take the girl. To send her away." He stood and drew breath. "The Doorkeeper was speaking. wizard Gelluk and a young finder-both disappeared without a trace, they said, as if the earth had. She said, "I know." centuries by kings. Towns and cities are, however, frequently almost entirely self-governed by. "But the spirit of rivalry worked in the boy as he grew to be a man. It's a strong spirit on Roke: always to do better than the others, always to be first... The art becomes a contest, a game. The end becomes a means to an end less than itself... There was no man there more greatly gifted than this man, yet if any did better than he in any thing, he found it hard to bear. It frightened him, it galled him. that lived long, long before Erreth-Akbe, before Morred, before there were people in Earthsea. Again he paused. All at once he looked straight at Otter, who froze in terror thinking the wizard had caught him watching his mind. Gelluk stared at him a while with that curious half-keen, half-unseeing gaze, smiling. "Little Medra!" he said, as if just discovering he was there. He patted Otter's shoulder. "I know you have the gift of finding what's hidden. Quite a great gift, were it suitably trained. Have no fear, my son. I know why you led my servants only to the little lode, playing and delaying. But now that I've come, you serve me, and have nothing to be afraid of. And there's no use trying to conceal anything from me, is there? The wise child loves his father and obeys him, and the father rewards him as he deserves." He leaned very close, as he liked to do, and said gently, confidentially, "I'm sure you can find the great lode." galley he scented something. "Well, well," he said, "who's this?" He walked to the helm and put. "I'm looking for a bed for the night." I found myself in a forest of fountains; farther along I came upon a white-pink room filled. "I know. No, that's something else. I thought that you all. . . his lips close to Otter's ear. "As they slaver, the dross and stains flow out of them. Illness and. "Do you hear the words?" swans, who marvellously soared through the south wall and out through the north wall; and lastly a. There was not much to be got from the people his men brought to him. The same thing again: they. He looked at her and said nothing. was becoming a good craftsman, even his father would admit that. will be frank with you. I advise you to write your parents -- I shall write them too -- informing. Diamond sat upright and still. He had been getting some of his father's height and girth lately, and looked very much a man, though a very young one. A wonder she was, and Dory bade fair to follow her." The boy was barely seventeen, and he himself just forty-five. In his prime. He had been feeling. violence, their actors to dolls, and their truth- telling to sentimental platitude. Heroes. chanting, weatherworking). A student who showed a gift for sorcery and was sent to Roke for. These legends are best preserved in Hur-at-Hur, the easternmost of the Kargad Lands, where dragons. from Hur-at-Hur. A Sky Father was added as head of the pantheon, and a priestly caste developed to. Veil, with her gentle voice and smile, was implacable. She told Medra that though she had. 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." The existence of magic as a recognized, effective power wielded by certain individuals, but not by. "What I have to do, you see," the old wizard said, still talking to Silence because it was a. The winter passed by, and the cold early spring, and with the warm late spring came a letter from. danced on the crimson pillars. But Otter could not read the book or the runes. He had never. "I can protect you here, and have done so. On Roke, of course, you'll be perfectly safe. The very walls, there... But if you go home, you must be willing to protect yourself. It's a difficult thing for a young man, very difficult -- a test of a will that has not yet been steeled, a mind that has not yet seen its true goal. I very strongly advise that you not take that risk. Write your parents, and go to the Great Port, or to Roke. Half your year's fee, which I'll return to you, will see to your first

expenses."Doorkeeper of the Great House of Roke saw him, he loosed his hands and freed his tongue. And the.sat down on the pallet, and went on thinking. The prisoning spell was still there, yet it had no."Only in some very, very old tales. Before the gods were. Before men were. Before men were men.,smock and leggings and a loathsome felt hat, did not wink back. She played her part even while."I've often wondered why I let the boy in," said the Doorkeeper. "Now I begin to understand,".what he ought to have said. He did not want to encourage the boy to spend any more time on music,.When he had done what he could to warn the city, and seen all the gate-guards and port-guards doing what they could to keep the few roads out from becoming choked and murderous with panicky people, Ogion shut himself into a room in the signal tower of the Port, locked the door, for everybody wanted him at once, and sent a sending to the Dark Pond in Semere's cow pasture up on the Mountain..If only I knew what all that meant..She was a little drunk, I thought.."We do not teach women here," said the Windkey. "You know that."."In the west," he said..you had to do with a good hard-packed clay floor was sweep it and now and then sprinkle it to keep."No need," said the man like a falcon. "I will." And he said, "Irioth."..the forests that were or might yet be. "And sometimes the Grove is in this place," he said, "and."Bring the boys, then," Early said with deadly patience..water, the living river, forever. There is no death for an otter, only life to the end. But in the."That was the one thing you could do that I never could. And you never could teach me."..Heleth" ..grayish and dark like the stones. Her chin and breasts were shiny with the spittle that ran from.and hull. Surely that was using the secret art to a good end? For harm, yes, but only to harm the.everything. . .".Patterner. "Until -" He made a quick gesture of reversal with his open hands, down going up and up.founded a school on Roke as a center where they might gather and share knowledge, clarify the.bones need the sun. The wizard stood still in the doorway of his house, between the dark room and..At first he had thought Diamond had a knack such as many children had and then lost, a stray spark.lore a wizard or his prentice might record a plague, a famine, a raid, a change of masters, along.diplomas under your belt, plus four years of training, twelve years in all. In other words -- women.accepting their judgment over his own. "Thorion has been much with the other Masters, and with the.GOLDEN WAS immensely happy and quite unconscious of it. "Old man's got his jewel back," said the.The people of the Archipelago speak Hardic. There are as many dialects as there are islands, but none so extreme as to be wholly unintelligible to the others..the butterfly fell to the ground, a fragment of brick..guess Otak did. But he did no harm to the man at all, but fell down in a swoon himself. And now
he.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (59 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].now. From the very first moment I was invariably behind in everything that went on, and the.Archipelago under the sway of the wise men of Roke, for a while yet the family and their farms and.higher levels. Thundering, fluttering the hair of those who were standing with strong gusts of

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