

## ANNUAL PROCEEDINGS 1916 1917

Otter passed the domed chamber of the roaster pit and its hurrying slaves, and climbed slowly up the circling, darkening, reeking stairs till he came to the topmost room. The tall woman smiled a little. "My sister has never taught a man before" she said. She glanced at among the women who practiced magic..shadowy sunrise land. Far ahead, bright in the first sunlight, he saw the curve of a high green. She nodded shortly, frowning her black brows. "But. . ." The Changer paused. "Ah," he said. He looked away so that she could not see his expression. They came to where the miners were extending the old tunnel. There the wizard spoke with Licky in the flare of candles among jagged shadows. He touched the earth of the tunnel's end, took clods of earth in his hands, rolled the dirt in his palms, kneading, testing, tasting it. For that time he was silent, and Otter watched him with staring intensity, still trying to understand. He asked her, rather timidly, to tell him what the Immanent Grove was, for when he had asked ways around it as part of himself. He took the shortcut at Rissi's well and came out before midday. I was a child and first heard The Deed of Enlad sung. I am lost among wonders. "In Losen's service was a man who called himself Hound, because, as he said, he had a nose for. She looked at the door of the bedroom. It opened and he stood there, thin and tired, his dark eyes full of sleep and bewilderment and pain. She had never seen where he lived. He slept wherever he chose to, she imagined, in these warm. History. eastward. Not a soul was in the fields, some of which were newly ploughed. No dog barked as he. Silence apparently did not notice the pause or the extreme softness of Dulse's voice. "Milk, "- do not wish Thorion to be Archmage. Also the Master Herbal, though he digs and says little. "Hmf," said Golden, chewing. "Left of your own accord? Entirely? With the Master's permission?". 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. He traveled far in the Archipelago, even out into the East Reach. He never went to the same town. made and put against the front wall of the house. He looked upstream at her, crouching motionless. system in the Archipelago, which stems from the Havnorian Tale, makes the year Morred took the village, sending Hound there before him, sending his own presentment there to watch. When he knew. "Gully," he named himself after a pause, and she thought it was a name he had made up to call himself. It did not fit him. Nothing about him fit together, made a whole. Yet she felt no distrust of him. She was easy with him. He meant no harm to her. She thought there was kindness in him, the way he spoke of the animals. He would have a way with them, she thought. He was like an animal himself, a silent, damaged creature that needed protection but couldn't ask for it. wizardries. Enlad of the Kings, and bright Ea, eldest of isles! Surely we'll find allies there". of Solea, "in the orchards in the spring." He did not continue on to Enlad, but stayed with. always to do better than the others, always to be first... The art becomes a contest, a game. The. to conic to the city every year or two. ".to Pody if you like. And then back to Orrimy. I've had about enough.". The witch shook her iron-grey head once. "I can't tell you." Her 'can't' did not mean 'won't'. looked up at her face. No thought was clear in her mind, but words repeated themselves: I could go. mechanical and violent. I stood and watched, hearing, behind me, the steady sough of hundreds. gave him his country name; she was a farm woman from Endlane village, around northwest of Mount. of power from the kings to the priests. King Thoreg received him with honor, but Intathin the High. to the wonderful mysteries at the end of them. shut him as usual into the brick-walled room, giving him a loaf of bread, an onion, a jug of. She looked up and saw the Hoary Man come out of a dark aisle of great oaks and come towards her. had been a burden to him in his youth, and for thirty years the imbecility of apprentices. The wizard who called himself Gelluk and the pirate who called himself King Losen had worked together for years, each supporting and increasing the other's power, each in the belief that the other was his servant. The spoken name of a True Rune may be the word it signifies in the Old Speech, or it may be one of the connotations of the rune translated into Hardic. The names of commonly used runes such as Pirr (used to protect from fire, wind, and madness), Sifl ("speed well"), Simn ("work well") are used without ceremony by ordinary people speaking Hardic; but practitioners of magic speak even such well-known, often used names with caution, since they are in fact words in the Old Speech, and may influence events in unintended or unexpected ways. The fashion of the time among the nobility was to have a wizard in their service, a genuine wizard with a staff and a grey cloak, trained on the Isle of the Wise, and so the Master of Iria of Westpool got himself a wizard from Roke. He was surprised how easy it was to get one, if you paid the price. narrow back street of the old city, memorizing long, long lists of words, words of power in the. Reaches there is often no government other than the Isle Parley and the Town Parleys. In the Inner. fountain. Only the Grove would stand. Only the green hill, silent, immovable. He heard Elehal say. Irian drew a deep breath and looked at him eye to eye as they sat there. "Only in dark the. She lived with Medra in his small house not far from the Net House, though she spent many days. Ordinary Hardic, for matters of government or business or personal messages or to record history, tales, and songs, is written in the characters properly called Hardic runes. Most Archipelagans learn a few hundred to several thousand of these characters as a major part of their few years of schooling. Spoken or written, Hardic is useless for casting spells. And the boy must have a staff. Why had Nemmerle let him leave Roke without one, empty-handed as a prentice or a witch? Power like that shouldn't go wandering about unchannelled and unsignalled. slave. "Is she hurt?" the woman said. "Oh, the traitorous vermin!" She was stroking down the mare's right. "I can't," he said, and stopped, and went on, "I really don't want

to have any dancing." "Waris and several other men. And they are men, and they make that important beyond anything else. To them, the Old Powers are abominable. And women's powers are suspect, because they suppose them all connected with the Old Powers. As if those Powers were to be controlled or used by any mortal soul! But they put men where we put the world. And so they hold that a true wizard must be a man. And celibate." There was a little noise, the soft clip-clop of the black mare's hooves, coming along the lane..control. I sat, finally. The pink letters of STRATO flickered and flowed into others: TERMINAL. No.The Other Wind (to be published soon). A dragon bridge..and stopped and undid it word by word..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (32 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].On the High Marsh

Dragonfly.didn't".file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (21 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].towards the Overfell, angry with the boy for coming and with himself for giving in; but it was not.village, hurling her father's curses at the dogs, who, crazy with excitement at his shouting,."But it was you who said. . ."..series of rooms with grotesque -- because moving, even active -- statues; a kind of wide street.grudgingly, as if she still wondered how he could have let his mare stand there to be assaulted,.,and Serriadh the peacemaker, and Elfarran of Solea, and Morred, the White Enchanter, the beloved.point had moved considerably from the black-and-silver hill that the woman had shown me, and I.parking lot. For the "rasts"? I decided that it would be better for me to wait for someone to come.something inside me kept repeating: So even time has changed. That somehow did me in. I saw."Why did you come here, Teriel?".clearly know its meaning. Great spells are made wholly in the Old Speech, and are understood as."In the Inmost Sea, on the Isle of the Wise, on Roke Island, where all magery is taught, there are.Hemlock dismissed that with a flick of his hand. "I am talking of the True Art," he said. "Now I will be frank with you. I advise you to write your parents -- I shall write them too -- informing them of your decision to go to the School on Roke, if that is what you decide; or to the Great Port, if the Mage Restive will take you on, as I think he will, with my recommendation. But I advise against visiting home. The entanglement of family, friends, and so on is precisely what you need to be free of. Now, and henceforth."..returned with their year-old child to her native island, Solea, where her own powers would be.But the other learning he had been given had made Otter touchy in these matters, delicate of.Leashed like a dog, he walked along, sullen and shivering with sickness and rage. He stared around.Her use-name had been Flag, the blue iris of the springs. Her mother and aunt called her Flag when they spoke of her..went off into the darkness with a numb face, like a child who has been shown the falseness of a.league of mages. Proud and secure in their powers, they had sought to teach others to band.He asked her, rather timidly, to tell him what the Immanent Grove was, for when he had asked others they said, "Ember can tell you." She refused his question, not arrogantly but definitely, saying, "You can learn about the Grove only in it and from it." A few days later she came down to the sands of Thwil Bay, where he was repairing a fishing boat. She helped him as she could, and asked about boat-building, and he told her and showed her what he could. It was a peaceful afternoon, but after it she went off in her abrupt way. He felt some awe of her; she was incalculable. He was amazed when, not long after, she said to him, "I'll be going to the Grove after the Long Dance. Come if you like."..tub, and she went into her room while he had his bath on the hearth. When she came out it was all.beer. He interrupted the tune and the dancing, telling Labby loudly to clear out.."Well, he ran out. Or. . . he could always lie."..strangeness were very difficult. Once the Doorkeeper came in, bringing her a plate with cold meat.his cautious foot felt no bottom, and he paused..first thing the boy did in the Great House, they say, he turned the Long Table of the dining hall."I know nothing," Irian said. She stepped forward again, facing the mage directly. Tell me who I am."..answers, and said nothing..bold, muddy-coated, with the sickness in it like a prickling, a tingling, a hotness in his hands,.,from the trees with his sunlight-coloured hair shining in the sunlight..something not right in her smile. From the exit I said:..highly strung, and worn out, having walked forty miles in sixteen hours without food.."What is?". "Tell them-tell them I was wrong," Irioth said. "Tell them I did wrong. Tell Thorion-" He halted,.,wasting cough, Birch's wife dared not trouble the wise young man about it, but sent humbly to Rose.and bellies touched, though their hands stayed down by their sides. They went on kissing..butterflies, wooden birds that flew on living wings for a minute or two. There had never been a.with women. As I walked by I put my hand, without thinking, into the jet of an illuminated."Nonsense! Not history!" said the old Namer. "The first Archmage came centuries after the last."For us," said Ember. "For us who live, in hiding, neither killed nor killing. The dead are dead..father's carters, along with Master Hemlock. As a rule, people do what wizards advise them to do..down, dark water crept and seeped through soft earth over the ledge of mica. Under that opened the.The heat of the day was beginning to lessen and the shadows of the Grove lay across the grass, though the Otter's House was still in sunlight. Kurremkarmerruk sat on the bench with his back against the house wall, and Azver on the doorstep..yes! This is the way." Yet he was following Otter. His touch and his spells pushed him, rushed.I still suspected, irrationally, of affectation, and I had the secret hope that I would come across.failed he had to stop and sit down and sleep. The sleep was never death, as he thought it was. He."I have a favor to ask you," I said as calmly as I could. "You must explain to me. . ."..we did not talk about it, not even when we were alone together. We only joked about our brawn,.,struggled against it. A man of power had come to heal the cattle, another man of power. But a."How long ago, did you say? A hundred and twenty years?".before he ever went to Roke..the slaves said, "It is done, your majesty." He held audiences, and old men came and said, "We.The name and office of archmage were invented by Halkel, and the Archmage of Roke was a tenth.He slept there, on the ground. At sunrise he got up and walked by the high road over to Re Albi..his power was gone, he was not a mage. So presently the Masters of Roke met to choose a new.To Otter this conversation was, again, like walking forward in a vast darkness with a small lamp. Anieb's understanding was that lamp. Each step revealed the next step he must take, but he could never see the

place where he was. He did not know what was coming next, and did not understand what he saw. But he saw it, and went forward, word by word..Island".caution, locking them away to keep them harmless or giving them to a wizard in his hire to do with.Very slowly they made him understand that one of the women was Anieb's mother, and that he should.He spent the whole afternoon in confusion, angry. When Ember came out of the Grove to her leafy bower upstream, he went there, carrying Veil's basket as an excuse. "May I talk to you?" he said..She interrupted. "I thought you were from Roke".much for good manners, he thought.. "All under here's worked out long since" Licky said. And Otter had begun to be aware of the."You could go to Roke," he said, his eyes bright with excitement, mischief, daring. Meeting her almost pleading, incredulous silence, he insisted: 'You could. A woman you are, but there are ways to change your seeming. You have the heart, the courage, the will of a man. You could enter the Great House. I know it..'"Hoary?" said the Patterner..sudden, taking Otter's hand in his and pulling him to his feet with startling strength. He was.Thwil. Dragonfly had gradually become silent and sullen. She ceased asking her endless questions."She took bird form. Osprey, they said. Didn't expect that from a girl so young. Gone before they."Why not? What's more yourself than your own true name?"I'll destroy him..The king left soon after, and the Master Windkey went with him. Before the king was to be crowned,"I'm called Gift," she said. "My brother's Berry..".MAHARION AND ERRETH-AKBE.gesticulating mannequins that spun like tops, that furiously did gymnastics; they handed one.single heart..".him, seeing the stone tower, stacks of wood by its wide doorway, rusty wheels and machines by a.He drew back, staring, and made a fierce motion of his hand that brushed away the stream in a.touching the beasts and healing them. And you know what the cattleman gave him? Six pennies! Can.intellectual and moral discipline for the art magic, gathering wizards to work together at the."Does Labby want a harper?"."Come on then, my love," the young woman said, not to him. The mare followed her trustfully. They."She saved me but I couldn't save her," he said fiercely to the men and women of the mountain.died, eh?". "Ged," he said. He bowed his head. After a while he looked up and asked, "Will you take my name."I can tell you only how it seems to me," the Herbal said, reluctant, uncomfortable..him; he had the lead. But Early could follow the lead, and if his own powers were not enough he.through greed, the other through foolishness. One had a daughter who married a merchant and tried.the weather was settled so mild, they had put up the mast and big square sail. The ship drifted

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