

DESTROYER

Gammer's ox-team; he laid the floor and polished it the next day, while the old wizard was up at leg. "Get the saddle off her," she said, and her tone held the unspoken, impatient, "you fool!" greens, fruit, smoked mutton - and went with him every afternoon into the grove of high trees, words. "Weak as women's magic, wicked as women's magic," you think I don't know what they say? So, just as before, Crow was sitting on the coping, bored and restless. Forms of fiefdom, vassalage, and slavery have existed at times in some areas, but not under the rule of the Havnorian Kings. "I was new at the business of being Archmage then. And younger than the man we fought, and maybe not afraid enough of him. It was all the two of us could do to hold our own against him, there in the silence, in the cell in the tower. Nobody else knew what was going on. We fought. A long time we fought. And then it was over. He broke. Like a stick breaking. He was broken. But he fled away. The Summoner had spent a part of his strength for good, overcoming that blind will. And I didn't have the strength in me to stop the man when he fled, nor the wits to send anyone after him. And not a shred of power left in me to follow him with. So he got away from Roke. Clean gone. lives in it. He found himself standing two feet back, his hands stinging and his ears ringing and sign that was rising, bordered by a lemon haze. Exit? A way out? garden door, plain oak with an iron bolt. But there is no front door. Because they were smaller than men and could move more easily in narrow places, or because they. Dulse had the big lore-book open on the table. He had been trying to reweave one of the Acastan Spells, much broken and made powerless by the Emanations of Fundaur centuries ago. He had just begun to get a sense of the missing word that might fill one of the gaps, he almost had it, and - "You might keep some goats," Silence said. killed and killing, beyond these shores. You say it, and I believe it." commoners. Horses were all lords. They agreed to collude. He remembered walking among the great, have anyone. It's strange. . . All spells use at least a word of the Old Speech, though the village witch or sorcerer may not clearly know its meaning. Great spells are made wholly in the Old Speech, and are understood as they are spoken. patient, but the patience of the horse kind was wonderful, being freely given. Dogs were loyal. In her bed, in the dark, she lay and thought: He knew the wizard who named me. Or I said my name. She took the path to the old house. When his ears stopped ringing he stole after her, hoping the charm was working and that this was only her particularly uncouth way of leading him at last to her bed. Nearing the house, he heard crockery breaking. The father, the drunkard, came wobbling out looking scared and confused, followed by Dragonfly's loud, harsh voice - "Out of the house, you drunken, crawling traitor! You foul, shameless lecher!" The light had come back into Diamond's dark eyes. away. They were kissing. I walked toward the muffled sound of music, some all-night restaurant. But ever the other will be the same. moving lights blazed out of narrow vertical apertures hanging low above the ground. I could not. single heart." file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (61 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. bestiary in the barn loft... But there's nothing much to look for here. Nothing of importance. Ath. It was hard to be aware of her through the wizard's talk and the constant, half-conscious controlling spells that wove a darkness round him. But when Otter could do so, then it was not so much as if she was with him, as that she was him, or that he was her. He saw through her eyes. Her voice spoke in his mind, stronger and clearer than Gelluk's voice and spells. Through her eyes and mind he could see, and think. And he began to see that the wizard, completely certain of possessing him body and soul, was careless of the spells that bound Otter to his will. A bond is a connection. He-or Anieb within him-could follow the links of Gelluk's spells back into Gelluk's own mind. "Do that," the old mage said. followed her, but only to the door. Nobody entered a witch's house uninvited. THE KINGS OF HAVNOR. do that, sir, I'll do your things with mine," she said. he felt cold, cold through, though he was sitting in the full heat of the summer's day. We are. prosperity of the Inner Lands, which brought constant boat traffic even out in the West Reach. For. Otter sat up at last. He was wet, cold, bewildered. Why was he here? "Is he curing the cattle?" she asked. spring where Rose had named her ten years ago. She stood there; the dog sat down beside her and. long as they showed them, and him, due respect. knowing what he was doing. She was forgiving him. "A kind sister," he said. The words were so new. The cowboys were discussing whether or not it was safe to eat the meat of a steer dead of the murrain. The supply of food they had brought, meager to start with, was about to run out. Instead of riding twenty or thirty miles to restock, they wanted to cut the tongue out of a steer that had died nearby that morning. She drank her lemonade -- that's what I called the sparkling liquid, in my thoughts -- and again I had done. "Was that the Archmage? Truly?" between featureless walls to a wooden door in a higher wall. He had put his spell on her, and she. There were many such isles in the Archipelago, made barren and desolate by rival wizards' blights and curses; they were evil places to come to or even to pass, and Medra thought no more about this one, until that night. "My mother was born in Endlane, round by Faliern Forest," Otter said. "Do you know that town? off back to the School, and they straggled after him, arguing and debating in frustration and. "A group of young men," said the Herbal, breathless, as he came to them. "Thorion's army. Coming. Dulse considered himself a wordy, impatient man with a short temper. The necessity of not swearing had been a burden to him in his youth, and for thirty years the imbecility of apprentices, clients, cows, and chickens had tried him sorely. Apprentices and clients were afraid of his tongue, though cows and chickens paid no attention to his outbursts. He had never been angry at Silence before. There was a very long pause. watermetal's long gone. Listen, young'un, do you even know what cinnabar is?" the farmlands of the slopes of Mount Onn, nothing ever changes much. There a song worth singing is. survived the dark years. Wanting praise, not history, the warlords burnt the books in which the. He had made a little heap of bits of eggshell on the ground by his knee. He arranged the white fragments into a curve, then closed it into a circle. "Yes," he said, studying his eggshells, then, scratching up the

earth a bit, he neatly and delicately buried them. He dusted off his hands. Again his glance flicked to Irian and away..structure that I recognized; I was still in the station, in another place within the same gigantic hall.the summoner's art goes straight to that. It's a wonderful thing to summon up the semblance and.Sometimes the word used is alherath, "true-word-beings," "those who say true words," speakers of.Golden chewed very slowly, his eyes on the table. Diamond had seen his father look like this when.What do I want? she asked herself, and the answer came not in words but throughout her whole body."I told them," he said, "that if they went out Medra's Gate this day, they'd never go back through it into a House they knew. Some of them were for turning back, then. But the Windkey and the Chanter urged them on. They'll be along soon."..under my breath and took the cup. She poured herself a drink from the second bottle. This liquid."It is the lode," the young man said.."He does. But, admitting it unlikely, admitting it impossible - if we did defeat him - if he went back into death and left us here alive - what would we do? What comes next?".I gave up..Some people of great innate and trained power are able to find out the true name of another, or.was weakened then.".ONE.afoot. But now and then Diamond had an hour or two free. He always went down to the docks and sat.use, if he could find how to do it..governments," said tall Veil in her mild voice..dwindled into trifles. Might Diamond go (as his mother's uncle had gone) to the School of Wizards.the dragons came to raid among the western lands, and wizards went out in vain against them. King.have degenerated into animals without high intelligence. Yet it is in Hur-at-Hur that people keep.Then they were all silent..butterfly in midair. He flicked a butterfly back at her, and the two flitted and flickered a.King Maharion sought peace and never found it. While Erreth-Akbe was in Karego-At (which may have been a period of years), the depredations of the dragons increased. The Inward Isles were troubled by refugees fleeing the western lands and by interruptions to shipping and trade, since the dragons had taken to setting fire to boats that went west of Hosk, and harried ships even in the Inmost Sea. All the wizards and armed men Maharion could command went out to fight the dragons, and he went with them himself four times; but swords and arrows were little use against armored, fire-spouting, flying enemies. Paln was "a plain of charcoal," and villages and towns in the west of Havnor had been burnt to the ground. The king's wizards had spell-caught and killed several dragons over the Pelnish Sea, which probably increased the dragons' ire. Just as Erreth-Akbe returned, the Great Dragon Orm flew to the City of Havnor and threatened the towers of the king's palace with fire..man who wore a red tunic under his grey wizard's cloak said, "Do you bring this woman into the.lengthened a day by five hours, though he could not, as he had sworn to do, stop the sun at noon.He thought what he must do, and how he must do it. He wasn't sure whether he had summoned her or.mechanical and violent. I stood and watched, hearing, behind me, the steady sough of hundreds.Irian drew a deep breath and looked at him eye to eye as they sat there. ""Only in dark the light,"" she said..headed, or represented in dealings with other groups, by an elected Isleman or Islewoman, In the.he said this. It was not what he had meant to say..sloping sky-blue arrow upward; without any particular sensation, my body passed through two.than I, did this for me. Standing in front of me was a girl, perhaps twenty years old, in something.go there!".more. Her eyes were closed, but suddenly the whites shone from underneath her lashes; I bent."Waris and several other men. And they are men, and they make that important beyond anything else..hell, to the opening of a door, seeing as doorknobs had ceased to exist -- what was it? -- some.When he added that little questioning "eh?" or "neh?" to the end of what had seemed a statement it always took her by surprise. She said nothing..The Hardic people of the Archipelago live by farming, herding, fishing, trading, and the usual crafts and arts of a nonindustrial society. Their population is stable and has never overcrowded the limited habitable land available to them. Famine is unknown and poverty seldom acute..stand there, drained and blank, for a while. Then there would be another one, big, curious, shyly."Why do you say nothing?" I asked. I had to clear my throat.."Witchery," they said, "sacrilege, defilement".placating, frightened voice, Rose said, "It came so ..".His sudden tension and immobility, the strained face and inward look, were like those of a woman in labor when her womb contracts. That was Ogion's thought, even as he said, "What did you mean, "in the Mountain?"".was the pale-haired man with narrow eyes..left the Book of Names with a woman in the Ninety Isles for safekeeping.". "This way, this way," Gelluk murmured. "No harm will come to you." They came to the doorway of the.Medra knew the danger of repeatedly taking any form but his own, but he was shaken and weakened by the shipwreck and the long night flight, and the grey beach led him only to the feet of sheer cliffs he could not climb. He made the spell and said the word once more, and as a sea tern flew up on quick, laboring wings to the top of the cliffs. Then, possessed by flight, he flew on over a shadowy sunrise land. Far ahead, bright in the first sunlight, he saw the curve of a high green hill.."He told me what it's like," Dragonfly said. "You walk up through the town, Thwil Town. There's a door opening on the street, but it's shut. It looks like an ordinary door."..prejudice certainly influenced Halkel, the first Archmage, in creating his own authoritative.....". "Ach, it's a witch's den," Crow said, at the whiff of herbs and aromatic smoke, and he stepped.back into the house. "Oh, dear," she said, and burst into tears..All the teachers of the art magic on Roke were women. There were no men of power, few men at all, on the island..He tried to remember how to make light. Anieb said to him, plaintively, "Can't you make the.The history of the Four Lands is mostly legendary, concerning local struggles and accommodations of the tribes, city-states, and small kingdoms that made up Kargish society for millennia..outer courts. .. Why is it so? Are all women incapable of understanding? Or is it that the Masters."It's nothing," he said. In fact, rather to his annoyance, the cut had stopped bleeding. The.I put my face close to the aquamarine cup, which immediately, before I could open my."I didn't mean to offend you. It's just that, you see, if it is known that no one can -- you.Not much mixing of the Kargish and Archipelagan skin-color types has taken place except on Osskil, since the North Reach is isolated and thinly populated, and the Kargad people have held themselves apart from and often in enmity towards the Archipelagans for two or three millennia..center of pilgrimage from the earliest recorded times, and the kings of Atuan and later of Hupun.He stood silent in the doorway.

She sat on the stone floor near the crucible, her thin body grayish and dark like the stones. Her chin and breasts were shiny with the spittle that ran from her mouth. He thought of the spring of water that had run from the broken earth.. "No," he said, taking no offense, perhaps not understanding, "Of course it wasn't. I beg your pardon," she said.. "But outside Roke," said Medra, "there are common people who slave and starve and die in misery..frightened, and did not know what he was frightened of. The wizard, the power, the spell... It was." "If you stayed here, what would you do?" the black-browed woman asked him..would, swum as the otter would swim. But only in his own form could he think as a man, hide,

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