

## HER FAMILYS DEFENDER

him, but in the direction Otter chose to go..stood there. "What can I do for you?" he said. He did not smile, but his voice was pleasant..The sorcerer came out from behind San. His name was Ayeth. The power in him was small, tainted,.moment. "The whole village together couldn't change that!" she said, and laughed. It was all.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (75 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].They were both on the hill now. She towered above him impossibly, fire breaking forth between.Time passed as always in the Grove, not passing at all it seemed, yet gone, the day gone quietly."I tell you, Irian, he cannot come here, he cannot harm you here.".will that hurried his steps..something was being written -- letters -- by a sharp flame encased in alabaster: TELETRANS."But after the Summoner and I got over the bruises on our souls, as you might say, and the great.It was Golden's grandest party yet, with a dancing floor built on the town green down the way from Golden's house, and a tent for the old folks to eat and drink and gossip in, and new clothes for the children, and jugglers and puppeteers, some of them hired and some of them coming by to pick up whatever they could in the way of coppers and free beer. Any festivity drew itinerant entertainers and musicians it was their living, and though uninvited they were welcomed. A tale-singer with a droning voice and a droning bagpipe was singing The Deed of the Dragonlord to a group of people under the big oak on the hilltop. When Tarry's band of harp, fife, viol, and drum took time off for a breather and a swig, a new group hopped up onto the dance floor. "Hey, there's Labby's band!" cried the pretty girl nearest Diamond. "Come on, they're the best!".door that opened out upon the Knoll was long called Medra's Gate, even after much else had changed."He doesn't mind," Dragonfly reassured her. "Only he hardly ever really answers.".Otter a little cinnabar in a bucket, brownish red clots and crumbs. Shadows leapt across the earth.As mountains will, Andanden makes the weather. It gathers clouds around it. The summer is short,.nights. He thought of his mother, or of sunny rooms and hot food, or a tune would come into his.After the death of Orm the dragons remained a threat in the West, especially when provoked by dragon hunters, but they withdrew from their encroachments on peopled islands and peaceful shipping. Yevaud of Pendor was the only dragon to raid the Inward Lands after the time of the Kings. No dragon had been seen over the Inmost Sea for many centuries when Kalessin, called the Eldest, brought Ged and Lebannen to Roke Island..Only in silence the word,.out of the earth and the metal refined. As always, Gelluk's mind leapt across obstacles and delays.protections the Masters set on their flocks and fields and orchards. That made sense to her. On."I won't be so bold as to ask for a kiss," said Medra, "but an open hand, maybe?".woods, walking a bit stiffly and scratching his head as he went, as people do when half awake..a young man, thin, not as tall as she had thought. It was a fine face, but there was something.called him Songsparrow and Skylark, among other loving names, for she never really did like.King Maharion sought peace and never found it. While Erreth-Akbe was in Karego-At (which may have.You must not weaken, and not think, "Oh, if I just beg them to let me in, they can't refuse me.".could not find one and did not even attempt to look. I lay down on the foamy carpet and.Medra knew the danger of repeatedly taking any form but his own, but he was shaken and weakened by.chestnut don't shoot up overnight like alder and willow. But there was time. There was time, now..ascetics among humans, some dragons are greedy for shining things, gold, jewels; one was Yevaud,. "Is it a long way from where you live, sir?" she asked..incredible happened to him: his fur coat wilted before my eyes, collapsed like a punctured."What's changed?". "We'll have to see," said Alder, the next day, "if my beasts are cured. If they make it through."My master Highdrake said that wizards who make love unmake their power," he blurted out..Maybe it was to escape the hunt that Medra came to Pendor, a long way west of the Inmost Sea, or.trickle of blood came through..control. I sat, finally. The pink letters of STRATO flickered and flowed into others: TERMINAL. No."And I in my tower," said the Namer. "And you, Herbal, and the Doorkeeper, are in the trap, in the Great House. The walls we built to keep all evil out. Or in, as the case may be..only answer to conscious error is silence.". "You said I had it," the girl said into the reeking gloom of the one-roomed hut.."No," he said. "I don't know the way..".ledger full of lists of names and figures, a flicking, dismissive tap. "A spell of silence," she.wandered the day before, and that perhaps I was even looking from the bottom of the dark.nearby. He did not know what Ember wanted of him; he hoped she meant to teach him, to begin to.Unable to continue Tehanu's story (because it hadn't happened yet) and foolishly assuming that the.village, sending Hound there before him, sending his own presentment there to watch. When he knew.though it is made of horn and framed in dragons tooth and carved with the Thousand-Leaved Tree,.He never swore-men of power do not swear, it is not safe-but he cleared his throat with a coughing growl, like a bear. A moment later a thunderclap rolled off the hidden upper slopes of Gont Mountain, echoing round from north to south, dying away in the cloud-filled forests.. "You must find the Red Mother," he said, the day after that. They were sitting side by side again."The witch Rose of our village, lord," she answered, standing straight, though her voice came out.The sorcerer came out from behind San. His name was Ayeth. The power in him was small, tainted, corrupted by ignorance and misuse and lying. But the jealousy in him was like a stinging fire. "I've been coming doing business here some ten years," he said, looking Irioth up and down. "A man walks in from somewhere north, takes my business, some people would quarrel with that. A quarrel of sorcerers is a bad thing. If you're a sorcerer, a man of power, that is. I am. As the good people here well know..farther off, swords of light rose up cold and thin into the sky, whether homes or pillars, I did not."You have-" he said-"you have to go. Back." As he said "Back," his left hand struck down on the.Otter avoided them. Where they were was plain enough: the dusty pathways bent to miss them..know what's in it, but to a stranger one always gives brit..".Ever since he had walked on the green hill above the town and had seen the bright shadows in the grass, his heart had been easy. He was expectant, full of a sense of great strangeness, but not frightened. He stood still and

looked at the people who came to meet him..My teacher was with me, and his teacher with him," Ogion said when they praised him. "I could hold the Gate open because he held the Mountain still." They praised his modesty and did not listen to him. Listening is a rare gift, and men will have their heroes..That is, human beings chose to have possessions and dragons chose not to. But, as there are."Does Mother know?" Diamond asked..little way, a few strides. She turned and looked back down at him. "What keeps you from the hill?".fought..was neglected or actively suppressed by their society and government. Except as an evil to be."Study with the wizard?".Outside the gleam of werelight it was dark.."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.".her free. I know nothing. If you know how to be free, I beg you, teach me!".but all that would do was hide the ache for a while. There was no cure for what ailed him.

Old.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/D...20%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (2 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].Among sorcerers, few are strictly celibate, and many marry and bring up a family..Ath did not. His book, lost for centuries, is now in the Isolate Tower on Roke..land to land." If he went along the coast of the Great Isle, in many of those villages he might."You already know it. You gave it to Flag. She gave it to you. Trust.".rebuilt, Ogion escaped from praise and went up into the hills above Gont Port. He found the queer.her a piece of money, a little Enladian crownpiece of gold..fountain; I got up, walked on in the spreading light of the new day, until I woke from my stupor.AT THE END OF THE fourth book of Earthsea, Tehanu, the story had arrived at what I felt to be now..find him here. He was not here to find. There was no need to speak any name. There was nobody but."No," his wife said in her soft, level voice, "we aren't." .file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (64 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].safest? But while he was thinking about it, Losen's men, used to wizard's tricks, drugged his food.chests and clothes-presses against an infestation of moths, he said, "Seems like you'd have your."I do not know my other name," she said. She spoke as he had spoken, as she had spoken to the Summoner, in the Language of the Making, the tongue the dragons speak..They came out into the calm, open evening air. The west still held some brightness as they crossed the Thwilburn and walked across the fields to Roke Knoll, which stood up before them in a high dark curve against the sky.. "They do, they do," Tuly said. "Everything is hooked together, tangled up!".Hound sniffed, sighed, and followed, trudging along unwillingly, while behind him in the village the flames died down, and children cried, and women shouted curses after the eagle..strange, weak noise. I looked around at the motionless faces and left. Not until I was out on the.the Archipelago..She came there. She came to me, not in the body, and guided me to the track. She was only twelve."Everything is practice," Tangle said. She was never ill-natured. She seldom thought to do anything much for her daughter, but never hurt her, never scolded her, and gave her whatever she asked for, dinner, a toad of her own, the amethyst necklace, lessons in witchcraft. She would have provided new clothes if Rose had asked for them, but she never did. Rose had looked after herself from an early age; and this was one of the reasons Diamond loved her. With her, he knew what freedom was. Without her, he could attain it only when he was hearing and singing and playing music..To Otter this conversation was, again, like walking forward in a vast darkness with a small lamp.. "If you ask me to, I'll talk," the young man said, so earnest, so willing to deny his whole nature.Standing on that hill, Medra had said, "There is a vein of water, just under where I stand, that will not go dry." They dug down carefully and came to the water; they let it leap up into the sunlight; and the first part of the Great House they made was its inmost heart, the courtyard of the fountain..Nothing happened, and he had time to regret the sunlight and the seawind, and to doubt the spell, and to doubt himself, before the earth rose up around him, dry, warm, and dark..unbutton it, did not slip it off, just tore it, and let the shreds fall from her fingers, like trash..Otter's shoulder. "I know you have the gift of finding what's hidden. Quite a great gift, were it.passes all the trade and commerce and learning and craft of Earthsea, a wealth not hoarded. There.He looked up into the darkness. After a while he moved his good hand a little, and the faint light.me so that she could learn how to do it! Just because I learned how to play music from you, did I.She followed the Doorkeeper down a stone passageway. Only at the end of it did she think to turn back to see the light shine through the thousand leaves of the tree carved in the high door in its bone-white frame..violence. Everyone gets it "betriated" out of them in childhood. And that's just the beginning. . .All the firmaments of the night flung onto a flat plane. On a horizon of blazing mist --.Under Roke's steadily growing influence, wizardry was shaped into a coherent body of knowledge, its use increasingly controlled by moral and political purpose. Wizards trained at the school went to other islands of the Archipelago to work against warlords, pirates, and feuding nobles, preventing raids and forays, imposing penalties and settlements, enforcing boundaries, and protecting individuals, farms, towns, cities, and shipping, until social order was re-established. In the early years they were sent to enforce peace; increasingly they were called on to maintain it. While the throne in Havnor remained empty, for over two hundred years Roke School served effectively as the central government of the Archipelago.."I'm not a col. . ." I began. She leaned on the table with her elbows and moved her hand.mastered. Only then, he said, can your teachers begin to tell you what to do with it, what good it.The tall woman smiled a little. "My sister has never taught a man before" she said. She glanced at.He watched the staff that stood on the shining floor. In a little while he saw it quiver very slightly, a shiver, a tremble..defend it.. "Go with the water," said Ayo..squeeze their way. In places the ceilings had collapsed. Ladders were shaky. The mine was a.in the spring under Iria Hill," she said at last, standing up and speaking truth..When he was Gelluk's prentice and assistant, he had encouraged his master in the study of the lore.The weather was fair for once: a following wind, a blue sky lively with little white clouds, the mild sunlight of late spring. They made good way from Geath. Late in the afternoon he heard the master say to the helmsman, "Keep her south tonight so we don't raise Roke.".Though like any

power they could be perverted to evil use in the service of ambition (as was the Terrenon Stone in Osskil), the Old Powers were inherently sacral and pre-ethical. During and after the Dark Time, however, they were feminised and demonised in the Hardic lands by wizards, as they were in the Kargad Lands by the cults of the Priestkings and the Godkings. So by the eighth century, in the Inner Lands of the Archipelago, only village women kept up rituals and offerings at the old sites. They were despised or abused for doing so. Wizards kept clear of such places. On Roke, itself the center of the Old Powers in all Earthsea, the profoundest manifestations of those powers—Roke Knoll and the Immanent Grove—were never spoken of as such. Only the Patterners, who lived all their lives in the Grove, served to link human arts and acts to the older sacredness of the earth, reminding the wizards and mages that their power was not theirs, but lent to them..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (100 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:32 AM].power in Losen's pay. Hound did not consider himself to be one of them. "All I have is a nose," he.human voice. A terrible thing..Things came round if you could wait for them, she thought. "I'll set em out for you," she said..I entered a mall. It was filled with displays. Tourist offices, sports shops, mannequins in."You still are," Medra said. "Anieb was one of you. She and you and all of us live in the same.Erreth-Akbe's gifts in magic became apparent when he was still a boy. He was sent to the court to be trained by the wizards there, and the Queen chose him as a companion for her son.."But. . . where is the Inner Circle?""Probably we can't," said the Herbal. "If the Windkey locks the winds against us ...".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!".underground lake, which reflected the vaults of the rocks. There, too, on flimsy little rafts, people.young'un," said a broad, strong man with a furrowed face, "but you can nod your head well enough..the way and was wandering without heed. He talked, turning sometimes to Otter to guide him or warn.cauldrons of neon, feather crests and lightning bolts, circles, airplanes, and bottles of flame, red."They didn't punish him, but kept his wild powers bound with spells until they could make him.mines of Earthsea. These miners were free women, not slaves like the workers in the roaster tower..spell-protected. Rose had explained to her how wizards' spells worked 'so that it never enters."No," Azver said, but could say nothing else. He held his staff of willow, but it was only wood in."To destroy you..then lit up, as if by a momentary dawn. Farther on, long, low silhouettes sailed past, much like."I don't live in this House. In any house," the Patterner said. "I live there. The Grove - ah," he.not led him here. Since the raid, Roke Island had isolated itself wholly, sealed itself inside.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (11 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. "Don't be afraid," Gelluk said, his voice strong and musical over the panting gasp of the huge.back to see the light shine through the thousand leaves of the tree carved in the high door in its.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (84 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "I don't know. I don't know yet."

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