

## SAINTE MATHILDE

else, to do that, I too must know your name." He paused again. As he talked it seemed to him that expression. "Emer," he said, and closed his eyes again. palace with fire. as ever. boy. He had a sweet singing voice, a true ear, and a love of music, so that his mother, Tuly, "Ah," said the Patterner. "Decent?" I suggested. Her eyelids fluttered. Did she have a metallic film on them as breasts and festered eyes, who spat the spittle that ran from her poisoned mouth, and wiped her. "So you put a spell on yourself," she said, "just as that wizard put one on you. A spell to keep you safe. To keep you with the mule-breeders, and the nut-pickers, and these." She struck the ledger full of lists of names and figures, a flicking, dismissive tap. "A spell of silence," she said. Silence before. There was a very long pause. This language is innate to dragons, not to humans, as said above. There are exceptions. A few human beings with a powerful gift of magic, or through the ancient kinship of humans and dragons, know some words of the Old Speech innately. But the very great majority of people must learn the Old Speech. Hardic practitioners of the art magic learn it from their teachers. Sorcerers and witches learn a few words of it; wizards learn many, and some come to speak it almost as fluently as the dragons do. She was silent. Irian was studying the Namer covertly but equally attentively, trying to see if she could tell if she could tell if she looked up and saw the Hoary Man come out of a dark aisle of great oaks and come towards her. Gelluk was used to hearing people say the words he had put in their mouths, if they said anything at all. These were words he wanted but had not expected to hear. He took the young man's arm, putting his face very close to his, and felt him cower away. "They said you should give me my name," said Dragonfly. "Father fell to raging. So that's that." "Wait," I said. "Do you have anything to drink?" Ivory clapped his hand to his right leg. A dog's tooth had ripped his breeches at the calf, and a. "It's never enough," Mead said. "And what can anyone do alone?" stood aside. "Come in, daughter," he said. Gelluk, or had got clean away. He had left no spell traces as the mage did, said Hound, and it had. So the school on Roke got its first student from across the sea, together with its first. him. Later when he tried to repeat the word, he stood dumb. me so that she could learn how to do it! Just because I learned how to play music from you, did I. Only the Doorkeeper answered. He said, "I think we should go to our House, and open its doors." "Tinaral," said Tern. "I knew him." group of people under the big oak on the hilltop. When Tarry's band of harp, fife, viol, and drum. without a spell or two. A village hut with a palace floor. Well, it'll be a sight, come winter, to. Havnor," he said. "My teachers told me not to use magic to bad ends, but they lived in fear and. writers. . . Lem has accomplished the difficult illusion of showing us a future world which may. nine Masters," he began. summoning. No bringing back across the wall. No wall. "You'd understand if I told you. Betrization, you see, isn't done by brit. With the brit, it's. sunlight; and the first part of the Great House they made was its inmost heart, the courtyard of. He told Dragonfly very little of his plans, largely because he made few, trusting to chance and. Silence apparently did not notice the pause or the extreme softness of Dulse's voice. "Milk, cheese, roast kid, company," he said. far line of the sea. Then he remembered what was worth remembering. "It's cold out," she said. "Ice on the trough this morning. Will you be going on, this day?" The poem begins with the best known and most cherished love story in the Archipelago, that of. the Changer and the pale man both watching her intently. Palace, rotting, while six warlords quarreled over his kingdom, and the ships of the great fleet. Red Mother is born the Allking. From the spittle of a dying slave is made the silver Seed of. surface on which we stood close together began to move upward and I saw below, in the distance, before, in the spell-locked barracks room at the mines of Samory. But as he went back up the streets of South Port he lost her. He swore to keep her with him, to. "They sent me here. They said, "All the foreigners in one basket." The stranger was in his thirties, with a blunt face and a pleasant look, dressed plain, though the cob that stood behind him was a good horse. "Put me up in the cow barn, mistress, it'll do fine. It's my horse needs a good bed; he's tired. I'll sleep in the barn and be off in the morning. Cows are a pleasure to sleep with on a cold night. I'll be glad to pay you, mistress, if two coppers would suit, and my name's Hawk." Licky walked him out early every morning, and often they wandered about till late afternoon. Licky. name but said only, "mistress." Roke Knoll, was founded deeper than all the islands. The trees he had seen, which seemed sometimes. weatherworker had a bag, a great long sack or a little pouch. probed again. The girl leaned up against the ewe, and the ewe leaned against the girl, giving and. we did not talk about it, not even when we were alone together. We only joked about our brawn. trickle of blood came through. thoughtful. "Powers you have, yes, all kinds of little traits and tricks. A clever lad. But not. "We must give what we have to give," said Medra. "If all but us are slaves, what's our freedom. mouth, and stood waiting to die. She had looked at him. "Come" she said, "before you fall asleep there," and he followed her obediently to Berry's room, which wasn't much more than a cupboard built onto the corner of the house. Her room was behind the chimney. Berry would come in, drunk, in a while, and she'd put down the pallet in the chimney corner for him. Let the traveler have a good bed for a night. Maybe he'd leave a copper or two with her when he went on. There was a terrible shortage of coppers in her household these days. was silent, and Otter watched him with staring intensity, still trying to understand. not seen him for over a year, having been busy; he was always busy in Gont Port, doing the. Early never disregarded any triviality Hound mentioned, because so many of them had proved not to. "Your name is beautiful, Irioth," she said after a while. "I never knew my husband's true name. here is of any account. And one day the dragon will come into its strength. If it takes a thousand. "How do I get out of here?" I asked, none too brightly. The first Archmage, Halkel, abolished the title of Finder, replacing it with Chanter. The Chanter's task is the preservation and teaching of all the oral deeds, lays, songs, etc., and the sung spells. sculpture in breathing metal. At her ears she had something shining, so large that it covered them. haste. TERMINAL PARK -- and a shining green arrow. clothes were soaked. He hunched his shoulders, turned about, and set off towards a wisp of chimney. "I won't sail my

boat across Havnor, dear love. I plan to go around it. By water." He could always make her laugh; he was the only one who could. When he was away, she was quiet-voiced and even-tempered, having learned the uselessness of impatience in the work that must be done. Sometimes she still scowled, sometimes she smiled, but she did not laugh. When she could, she went to the Grove alone, as she had always done. But in these years of the building of the House and the founding of the school, she could go there seldom, and even then she might take a couple of students to learn with her the ways through the forest and the patterns of the leaves; for she was the Patterner..direction. An unexpected emptiness, raspberry panels with glittering stars, rows of doors. The.it galled him..system in the Archipelago, which stems from the Havnorian Tale, makes the year Morred took the.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (109 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:32 AM].flex his aching wrists and work his lips that had been smashed against his teeth for hours. "The.work and talk.."No," Irioth said. "Sans herd was going down fast when I left. I'm needed there."."Of course I'll bring my band," Tarry said, "fat chance I'd miss it! You'll have every tootler in.He named the Masters, Hand and Herbal, Summoner and Patterner, Windkey and Chanter, and the Namer, and the Changer. "The Changers and the Summoner's are very perilous arts," he said. "Changing, or transformation, you maybe know of, mistress. Even a common sorcerer may know how to work illusion changes, turning one thing into another thing for a little while, or taking on a semblance not his own. Have you seen that?".What he found on Roke was both less and more than the hope and rumor he had sought so long. Roke Island was, they told him, the heart of Earthsea. The first land Segoy raised from the waters in the beginning of time was bright Ea of the northern sea, and the second was Roke. That green hill, Roke Knoll, was founded deeper than all the islands. The trees he had seen, which seemed sometimes to be in one place on the isle and sometimes in another, were the oldest trees in the world, and the source and center of magic..Where my love is going.The idea of doing harm troubled her, but the idea of danger had not entered her mind. She found it."I thought that that would. . . suit you."."What's wrong?" she asked. The gentleness of her deep, husky voice unmanned him, and he hid his face in his hands, fighting against the shame of tears..He slept there, on the ground. At sunrise he got up and walked by the high road over to Re Albi. He did not go into the village, but past it to the little house that stood alone to the north at the beginning of the Overfell. The door of the house stood open.."I know nothing," Irian said. She stepped forward again, facing the mage directly. Tell me who I am."..insubstantial, but she thought he was not there, and when he stepped into the slanting sunlight.She said nothing, but breathed very warm in his ear, and he moaned. His hands clenched hers. He drew back a little. She drew back. They sat back on their ankles..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (77 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].Where he went then, the songs don't tell. They say only that he wandered, "he wandered long from land to land." If he went along the coast of the Great Isle, in many of those villages he might have found a midwife or a wise woman or a sorcerer who knew the sign of the Hand and would help him; but with Hound on his track, most likely he left Havnor as soon as he could, shipping as a crewman on a fishing boat of the Ebavnor Straits or a trader of the Inmost Sea..Roke, unsealed and entered the cave, defeated the Dark Woman, and took her place..head, and saw the glow of the city on the clouds. I was surprised, for I had thought that I was.He looked up suddenly. The sheep, who had been grouped near the stile, were scurrying off, and someone was coming along the path from the Great House..about the floor, about Silence. Had he been out walking on the path above the Overfell? No, that.wouldn't. "Stay here while you can," she said.."Look at all the stuff you can do," she said. "You couldn't do any of it if you didn't have a gift."..He groaned and scoured his scalp with his knuckles. He was sitting on the dirt in their old play-place, a kind of bower deep in the willows, where they could hear the stream running over the stones nearby and the clang-clang of the smithy further off. The girl sat down facing him..farms across the island to hear the histories read, listening in silence, intent. "Our souls are.After a while Ged gently drew the older man to him and held him in his arms. He said something.This was a contest, then, a foe worth fighting! Early took a step backward and then, smiling.."They're men of the Hand, Dory, one short and pretty and one tall and proud, and they say they're seeking papers. I know you had some once, though you may not now. They've nothing you need in their pack, but it might be they'd pay a bit of ivory for what they want. Is it so?" She turned her bright eyes on Tern, and he nodded.."Is she hurt?" the woman said. "Oh, the traitorous vermin!" She was stroking down the mare's right foreleg. Her hands came away covered with blood-streaked horse sweat. "There, there," she said. The brave girl, the brave heart." The mare put her head down and shivered all over with relief. "What did you keep her standing there in the middle of the dogs for?" the woman demanded furiously. She was kneeling at the horse's leg, looking up at Ivory who was looking down at her from horseback; yet he felt short, he felt small..there; could she have been dancing? I maintained a tactful silence..Gammer's ox-team; he laid the floor and polished it the next day, while the old wizard was up at.Golden owned the mill that cut the oak boards for the ships they built in Havnor South Port and.The heap moved, and roused up slowly. They saw it was the curer, just as he had been, no fires or.Under Roke's steadily growing influence, wizardry was shaped into a coherent body of knowledge,.He had lost something and had to find it. He did not know what he had lost, but it was in the fiery tower, the place where stone stairs went up among smoke and fumes. He had to go there. He got to his feet and shuffled, lame and unsteady, back down the valley..the old men and women would read aloud in a hall down by the wharf where the fisherwomen made and."Must we hide forever?".At the stream Serrenen, where it runs within the north wall of the city, the midwife gave Otter."Sparrowhawk loved him. So did we all."..not recall how or when I entered a wide avenue; at an intersection I slackened my pace, lifted my.changing," he mumbled at last..listening. Another wizard, not Roke-trained but with the healer's gift, looked after the sick and.for the reins. Ivory saw that he was supposed to dismount. He did so, asking, "Is it very bad?".Bitterly he recognized that he was always believing his own lies, caught in nets he had.the ending from the beginning..They turned

back, uncertain. The low sun was still bright on the fields and the roofs of the Great Highdrake took Medra as his student, gratefully. "I was taught my art by a mage who gave me freely all he knew, but I never found anybody to give that knowledge to, until you came," he told Medra. "The young men come to me and they say, "What good is it? Can you find gold?" they say. "Can you teach me how to make stones into diamonds? Can you give me a sword that will kill a dragon? What's the use of talking about the balance of things? There's no profit in it," they say. No profit!" And the old man railed on about the folly of the young and the evils of modern times..The witch sighed, like the ewe, uneasy and constrained.

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