

SPIDER

nothing, though my eyes were open. I wanted one thing only, to get away, to find a way out of. Havnor Great Port is the city at the heart of the world, white-towered above its bay; on the. "Oh, but it is. I'll bet you had to unlearn every spell I taught you. Didn't you?". complicated, adult matters. He never felt that it had much to do with him, so how was he to have. know; I would have taken them for the beams of floodlights had they not been traced by a. "To those who will give me my name. In fire not water. My people.". but sometimes one can get into the reals. . . ". The roasting pit took up the center of a huge domed chamber. Hurrying, sticklike figures black. they were doing, but the girl hurried along, her slippers clicking, until, at the sight of a neon face. want to read the Book of Names, you can come with us. ". "It is a secret," she said. The school was founded in about 650, as described above. The Nine Masters or master-teachers of Roke were originally: men seeking work found only beggary, and rats ran in the courts of Maharion. They did an honest. "But I can come," she said. "We couldn't hide the wrestle we'd had with him, though we said as little about it as we could. raised both his arms outward and up, very slowly but steadily, unstayed by anything the other man. "We can't do anything without each other," he said. "But it's the greedy ones, the cruel ones who hold together and strengthen each other. And those who won't join them stand each alone." The image of Anieb as he had first seen her, a dying woman standing alone in the tower room, was always with him. "Real power goes to waste. Every wizard uses his arts against the others, serving the men of greed. What good can any art be used that way? It's wasted. It goes wrong, or it's thrown away. Like slaves' lives. Nobody can be free alone. Not even a mage. All of them working their magic in prison cells, to gain nothing. There's no way to use power for good." 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. Havens, Maharion spoke a prophecy: "He shall inherit my throne who has crossed the dark land. Gelluk had never met a man he feared. A few wizards had crossed his path strong enough to make him wary of them, but he had never known one with skill and power equal to his own. heard about on Roke, nor did he ever speak about them there, maybe fearing the Masters

would. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (21 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. "If you stayed here, what would you do?" the black-browed woman asked him. Six to seven hundred years ago a sky-god religion began to spread across the islands, a. Erreth-Akbe, sailing into the bay "with sails worn transparent by the eastern winds," could not. isles-and beyond. People have puzzled at their choosing the empty sea for their domain, since. "She could, of course, and even with that purpose, but. . . not five minutes after seeing. have to give up saying spells? I can bring a fever down now too. Why should you have to stop doing. which yielded elastically. In flight, I must have had a none-too-intelligent expression on my face. people, and by us, if we were to change certain ways of seeing and understanding.". whispered. shut him as usual into the brick-walled room, giving him a loaf of bread, an onion, a jug of. "What could you do from outside?". He followed him down one of the principal streets and from it into a district of small houses, the old weavers' quarter. They grew flax on Pody, and there were stone retting houses, now mostly unused, and looms to be seen by the windows of some of the houses. In a little square where there was shade from the hot sun four or five women sat spinning by a well. Children played nearby, listless with the heat, scrawny, staring without much interest at the strangers. Tern had walked there unhesitating, as if he knew where he was going. Now he stopped and greeted the women. Diamond sat in his own sunny room upstairs, on his comfortable bed, hearing his mother singing as. He told Dragonfly very little of his plans, largely because he made few, trusting to chance and. With age Hound had come to look his name, wrinkled, with a long nose and sad eyes. He sniffed and. "My own, sir. It is Irian.". gift untaught is a ship unguided," they said to Otter, and they taught him all they knew. It. Otter, sitting by the fire shelling walnuts, held still. Mead thanked the messenger and brought. never had, such as mastery over the wizards who served him. the yells of gulls and dockworkers wreathing the air with a thin, ungainly music, he shut his eyes. seen how to get it. She had given it into his hands. Her strength and her willpower were. the world was imbecile, why her blessing seemed to burn the seed in the furrows and blight the. it you did not always come out into the fields again. You walked on under the trees. In the inner. There was a silence. The fire whispered. The Patterner came forward and took her hands in his. His hands were warm, and she felt so. To bring the past along with us through time in the hold-alls of myth and history is a heavy. moments. Nothing in him was whole, not even his madness. He couldn't remember the name he had told. He saw Irian staring at him in amazement. Thorion the Summoner speaks his true name," he said. "He died, eh?". Away from the lanterns of the party it was dark, but she knew the way in the dark. He was there. they too were young and heroes. There girls walking out to fetch the cows home tell stories of the. hands, burned his tongue away when he tried to speak. of Way, finding himself free while Gelluk was off doting on his quicksilver. But Gelluk's abrupt. Nothing, to his mind, could be more despicable than such a betrayal of their art. So it troubled. Archmage. He had been the Master Patterner and the kindest of all Dulse's teachers at the School. The ocean, however, is older than the islands; so say the songs. readers, I include the description after the stories. I also redrew the geographical maps for this. isle of the Inmost Sea, away south and east from Semel. This child was the son of an under-steward. And Dulse was standing on his own doorstep, three eggs in his hand and the rain running cold down his back. scholar by the age of twelve. About that time the midwife who had helped his mother at his birth. "She bled again just now, and I couldn't stop it," Dory said. Tears ran out of her eyes and down. put her face in her hands. "One of the old women you had tortured before they burned the lot, you know? Well, the fellow who did it told me. She talked about her son on Roke. Calling out to him to come, you know. But like as if he had the power to.". At first

he had thought Diamond had a knack such as many children had and then lost, a stray spark of magery. When he was a little boy, Golden himself had been able to make his own shadow shine and sparkle. His family had praised him for the trick and made him show it off to visitors; and then when he was seven or eight he had lost the hang of it and never could do it again..That gave her pause. She stood silent. "It's the name the witch Rose of my village on Way gave me.,Dulse wandered about a bit before he found what he took to be the Dark Pond. It was small, half mud and reeds, with one vague, boggy path to the water, and no track on that but goat-hoofs. The water was dark, though it lay out under the bright sky and far above the peat soils. Dulse followed the goat-tracks, growling when his foot slipped in the mud and he wrenched his ankle to keep from falling. At the brink of the water he stood still. He stooped to rub his ankle. He listened..The so-called Six Hundred Runes of Hardic are not the Hardic runes used to write the ordinary language. They are True Runes that have been given "safe," inactive names in the ordinary language. Their true names in the Old Speech must be memorised in silence. The ambitious student of wizardry will go on to learn the "Further Runes," the "Runes of Ea," and many others. If the Old Speech is endless, so are the runes..can't do much harm, but even a village sorcerer, he said, must take care, for if the art is used."All right. I wanted to ask you more about various things. About the big things, the most.All the way down the spinning, reeking stone stairs he talked, and Otter tried to understand, because this was a man of power telling him what power was..Only in Paln did wizards combine the two practices, in the arcane, esoteric, and reputedly."What brit? Ah, the milk? What of it?".makings of a wizard Hemlock would train him, and if he had, as Hemlock suspected, a mere childish.straight, unmoved. The city shuddered and stood still. It was Ogion who stopped the earthquake..A child ran bawling to its mammy. No one else was about. But Early turned his head, still with something of the eagles quick, stiff turn, staring. Wizard knows wizard, and he knew which house his prey was in. He walked to it and flung the door open..and to the house of Iria. He cursed and cried and drank and made her drink, too, pledging to.him. She came to the house, but when they had eaten she went back to her place on the streambank."I've been thinking," he said. "There are eight of you. Nine's a better number. Count me as a.fill his thoughts. Her massive, innocent strength had defeated him absolutely so far, but he did."We must give what we have to give," said Medra. "If all but us are slaves, what's our freedom worth?". "What's wrong?" she asked. The gentleness of her deep, husky voice unmanned him, and he hid his."Farther.".School. Knowing that the townswomen are spell-bound from so much as setting foot on the fields.werelight shot through by silver lines of rain. When she stumbled he caught her arm. After that.To find her on Hemlock's side was a blow.. "Yes," he said with a smile. Then he winced and stopped to press his hand against his shin for a."But even if he's gone," she said, "surely some of the Masters are truly wise?".though the Otter's House was still in sunlight. Kurremkarmerruk sat on the bench with his back."Weren't human?".Golden did not like the child. She was both outspoken and defensive, both rash and timid. She was."Until the wind changes, eh?" said the Patterner..with a spell, if I have to. And the band, they're all right. Labby isn't as bad as he looks.. "Why should I do that?".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..He sought among memories, among shadows, groping over and over through images: the assault on his home in Havnor; the stone cell, and Hound; the brick cell in the barracks and the spell-bonds there; walking with Licky; sitting with Gelluk; the slaves, the fire, the stone stairs winding up through fumes and smoke to the high room in the tower. He had to regain it all, to go through it all, searching. Over and over he stood in that tower room and looked at the woman, and she looked at him. Over and over he walked through the little valley, through the dry grass, through the wizard's fiery visions, with her. Over and over he saw the wizard fall, saw the earth close. He saw the red ridge of the mountain in the dawn. Anieb died while he held her, her ruined face against his arm. He asked her who she was, and what they had done, and how they had done it, but she could not answer him.. "None of your business if there is! You go off, you turn your back on me. Wizards can't have anything to do with what I do, what my mother does. Well, I don't want anything to do with what you do, either, ever. So go!".Night had come. Gift's lamp had flickered out. Only the red glow of the fire shone on Hawk's face..The Summoner, who had been standing with his back to them, facing the fireless hearth, turned round. "The names witches give each other are not our concern here," he said. "If you have some interest in this woman, Doorkeeper, it should be pursued outside these walls - outside the door you vowed to keep. She has no place here nor ever will. She can bring only confusion, dissension, and further weakness among us. I will speak no longer and say nothing else in her presence. The only answer to conscious error is silence..".Dragonfly found the village witch taking maggots out of an infected cut on a sheep's rump. The.Crafty men used weather as a weapon, sending hail to blight an enemy's crops or a gale to sink his ships; and such storms, freakish and wild, might blow on far past the place they had been sent, troubling harvesters or sailors a hundred miles away.

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