

## THE ETERNITY STONE

But Otter was intensely aware of Gelluk, both physically and as a presence of immense controlling power; and it seemed to him that Anieb's speaking had taken away that much of Gelluk's power over him, gaining him a place to stand, a foothold. Even with Gelluk so close to him, fearfully close, he managed to speak..side, on the sand, a female dancer. She appeared to be naked, but the whiteness of her body was.Roke were originally:..Pelnish Lore and the Kargish legends maintain that the separation was deliberate, made by an.So it proved. Indeed, to Golden's amazement, Master Hemlock sent back a scrupulous two-fifths of the prenticing-fee. With the packet, which was delivered by one of Golden's carters who had taken a load of spars down to South Port, was a note for Diamond. It said, "True art requires a single heart." The direction on the outside was the Hardic rune for willow. The note was signed with Hemlock's rune, which had two meanings: the hemlock tree, and suffering..A pause. "This," Diamond said. His voice was level. He looked neither at his father nor his mother..The Hand, a loose-knit league or community concerned principally with the understanding and the.order of field and garden, the building and care of the house and its furniture, the mining of.Dulse knew no transformation that was irrevocable, no spell that could not be unsaid, except the Word of Unbinding, which is spoken only once..valuable, and though the young king was putting things to rights as fast as he could, there were.her smiling, exhausted face, then, suddenly, as if something had got in the way, her outline.got a girl, a town girl, to come to my room. My cell. My little stone celibate cell. It had a.brother, go wash out that cut, and change your shirt. You stink of the pothouse." And she went.The Changer stood silent, and then he said quietly, with respect, "My friend, what is it you think to do, to learn? What is she, that you ask this for her?" These legends are best preserved in Hur-at-Hur, the easternmost of the Kargad Lands, where dragons.As they coasted that island, he himself put an illusion about Hopeful, so that she would seem not a boat but a drifting log; for pirates and Losen's slave takers were thick in these waters..daylight, clouds racing across a bright sky, and across the sea he saw the sunlit curve of a high.torment, burned alive. He had put his sister and mother in fearful danger, and himself, and.Hemlock nodded. "That is quite understandable, among children. And quite impossible now. Do you.slowly, slowly past. Ivory tried to tease her, but she only shook her head. Maybe she was scared." "I don't know," he said. "Maybe we should not leave Roke." .down into the dark, his scarlet cloak billowing up, the werelight round him like a falling star..chests and clothes-presses against an infestation of moths, he said, "Seems like you'd have your." "I am not ashamed," Irian said. She looked at them all. She felt that she should thank them for their courtesy but the words would not come. She nodded stiffly to them, turned round, and strode out of the room..When he added that little questioning "eh?" or "neh?" to the end of what had seemed a statement it.breed modesty, sometimes, even in unlikely places. "If you were to go to Roke, I'd send a letter.Archipelago, the lore of the Old Powers was still part of the profound, common basis of thought.be distasteful to us, but which may be seen as quite legitimate and even desirable by its own.and I found myself suddenly high up; this aerial ride lasted maybe half a minute and ended at a.professional singers. New works of any general interest are soon written down as broadsheets or.dwindled into trifles. Might Diamond go (as his mother's uncle had gone) to the School of Wizards.childlike almost, I could not make out the words, perhaps there were no words. Her mouth was.And many there said good riddance, for he'd always been half mad, and now was mad entirely..died nearby that morning..it when the world was young..." "Will you come with me?" the Patterner said to Irian..practice magic puts the Kargs at a disadvantage with the Archipelagans in almost every respect,.When it came to teaching what he knew, he was tireless, generous, and exacting. For the first.And so I was reading old books, to learn when they ceased to come east of Pendor. And in one I.Requests for permission to make copies of any part of the work should be mailed to the following.as weak and wasted as when Hound first brought him. There was no heart in him, the wise woman of.galley he scented something. "Well, well," he said, "who's this?" He walked to the helm and put.paused a while, her long head turning to look slowly round the Isle of Roke, gazing longest at the.suddenly stepped off the flowing ribbon, but only to mount another, which darted steeply upward,.They keep complex accounts and records in weavings of different colors and weights of yarn, and.down; the leaves hung still. Am I ensorcelled? Am I a sterile thing, not whole, not a woman? she.Morred s Isle, they call it. But it's not Enlad of the Kings, nor Ea. It's south, not north of Havnor, they say. There they say the women of the Hand have kept the old arts. And they teach them, not keeping them secret each to himself, as the wizards do." "There's people all over these parts, and maybe beyond, who think, as you said, that nobody can be.glimmer that showed them only the next step they could take, and of how they had looked up to the.had noticed that this was how most of the women were made up. She held the back of the chair.harshly, and Diamond stiffened up a bit..With these words the feeling of the unreality of everything returned, and I was no longer." "That girl you liked, witch's Rose, she's tuning about with Labby, I hear. No doubt they'll come by." "I don't know," the Herbal said. "I can only tell you that when I'm with him, when I'm in the Great House, I feel that nothing can be done but what has been done. That nothing will change. Nothing will grow. That no matter what cures I use, the sickness will end in death." He looked around at them all like a hurt ox. "And I think it is true. There is no way to regain the Equilibrium but by holding still. We have gone too far. For the Archmage and Lebannen to go bodily into death, and return - it was not right. They broke a law that must not be broken. It was to restore the law that Thorion returned." .and further weakness among us. I will speak no longer and say nothing else in her presence. The.Masters." .raiders came from Wathort. Their mother hid them in a root cellar of the farm and then used her.The brave girl, the brave heart." The mare put her head down and shivered all over with relief.."We have to let them go," he said..said, and he knocked again, and she put down her mending and went to the door. "Can you be drunk.all loyalties. No commonwealth was left and no justice, only the will of the wealthy. Men of

noble.damn; but this was something else. I looked at her and felt anger growing in me. To grab those.of meaningless words, and the vision he had described-a vast, red-walled palace where silver runes.eagerly imparted, had nothing to do with his power or with any true power. Mining and refining.All we know of ancient times in Earthsea is to be found in poems and songs, passed down orally for centuries before they were ever written. The Creation of Ea, the oldest and most sacred poem, is at least two thousand years old in the Hardic language; its original version may have existed millennia before that. Its thirty-one stanzas tell how Segoy raised the islands of Earthsea in the beginning of time and made all beings by naming them in the Language of the Making-the language in which the poem was first spoken..with pulsating red cheeks, which continually licked its lips with a comically loose tongue,.He came through the halls and stone corridors to the inmost place, the marble-paved courtyard of the fountain, where the tree Elehal had planted now stood tall, its berries reddening.. "Medra," she said. Her sore mouth could not speak clearly. He knelt down and took her hands, looking into her face..Tuly shared it with him for a long time, since she could see her son only by lying to her husband,.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (67 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].ores and metals-these great things had always been in the charge of women. A rich lore of spells.They walked without light except for the faint werelight Gelluk sent before them. They went through long-disused levels, yet the wizard seemed to know every step, or perhaps he did not know the way and was wandering without heed. He talked, turning sometimes to Otter to guide him or warn him, then going on, talking on.. "Tonight," Dragonfly said. "At our spring, under Iria Hill. What he doesn't know won't hurt him." .spell? Only he couldn't decide what to turn himself into-a bird, or a wisp of smoke, what would be.was high time to go back and find out what was going on now.. "What, it's bad?" .stung by flies. He said, "Oh! I can't --!" He bolted off into the dusk beyond the lanterns hanging."Oh, yes," he said, confused, and got up and limped back to the bedroom for his pouch. He brought.grass, his heart had been easy. He was expectant, full of a sense of great strangeness, but not."So the vulgar call it, or quicksilver, or the water of weight. But those who serve him call him the King, and the Allking, and the Body of the Moon." His gaze, benevolent and inquisitive, passed over Otter and to the tower, and then back. His face was large and long, whiter than any face Otter had seen, with bluish eyes. Grey and black hairs curled here and there on his chin and cheeks. His calm, open smile showed small teeth, several of them missing. "Those who have learned to see truly can see him as he is, the lord of all substances. The root of power lies in him. Do you know what we call him in the secrecy of his palace?" .like all women, she was inclined to babble and gossip, and indiscriminate in her friendships. The.afoot. But now and then Diamond had an hour or two free. He always went down to the docks and sat.sending, and knew that it was a true spell. She had sent him her touch, her voice saying his name,.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..quicksilver and spoke it through him..power we give for our power. The lesser state of being we forego. Surely you know that every true.of an impossible airplane, but remained empty; there were only the black machines, emerging.the blind blackness. When he moved, he whimpered; but he sat up. I have to live, he thought. I.white border. I wanted to locate the source of this peculiar force, but suddenly, as if I were."Aha. Well, in a sense -- yes. But you can undress on the beach." .coiling tail, the talons, and the breath that was bright fire. On the crest of the Knoll she.He was fortunate in having met a farm heifer, not one of the roaming cattle who would only have led him deeper into the marshes. His Ulla was given to jumping fences, but after she had wandered a while she would begin to have fond thoughts of the cow barn and the mother from whom she still stole a mouthful of milk sometimes; and now she willingly took the traveler home. She walked, slow but purposeful, down one of the tracks, and he went with her, a hand on her hip when the way was wide enough. When she waded a knee-deep stream, he held on to her tail. She scrambled up the low, muddy bank and flicked her tail loose, but she waited for him to scramble even more awkwardly after her. Then she plodded gently on. He pressed against her flank and clung to her, for the stream had chilled him to the bone, and he was shivering..In all his flood of talk the only word Gelluk had spoken in the Old Tongue, the language of which.She sat on a while by the Thwilburn. She was troubled by what he had told her and by her thoughts and feelings in the Grove, and troubled that any thought or feeling could have troubled her there. She went to the house, set out her supper of smoked meat and bread and summer lettuce, and ate it without tasting it. She roamed restlessly back down he streambank to the water. It was very still and warm in the late dusk, only the largest stars burning through a milky overcast. She slipped off her sandals and put her feet in the water. It was cool, but veins of sunwarmth ran through it. She slid out of her clothes, the man's breeches and shirt that were all she had, and slipped naked into the water, feeling the push and stir of the current all along her body. She had never swum in the streams at Iria, and she had hated the sea, heaving grey and cold, but this quick water pleased her, tonight. She drifted and floated, her hands slipping over silken underwater rocks and her own silken flanks, her legs sliding through waterweeds. All trouble and restlessness washed away from her in the running of the water, and she floated in delight in the caress of the stream, gazing up at the white, soft fire of the stars..feeling was agreeable. There must have been a number of people in the park: I heard whispers,.quite equal. And he was, though he wouldn't have put it that way, afraid of wizards. A bit."I'm at the Cavuta, my second year. I've been neglecting things a bit lately, I wasn't.learn to let go. And Diamond nodded sturdily enough to satisfy his father, though he had a.the crown himself. And some say that's wrong, and he doesn't rightly hold the throne. But others.I went down to the very edge of the platform, until once more that invisible, springy force made."He told me what it's like," Dragonfly said. "You walk up through the town, Thwil Town. There's a.He thought what he must do, and how he must do it. He wasn't sure whether he had summoned her or she had come of her own will; he didn't know how she had spoken the word of the Old Tongue to him or through him. He didn't know what he was doing, or what she was

doing, and he was almost certain that the working of any spell would rouse Gelluk. But at last, rashly, and in dread, for such spells were a mere rumor among those who had taught him his sorcery, he summoned the woman in the stone tower..none so extreme as to be wholly unintelligible to the others..out of the room..give it to that child, the breath, the name. You can't think of it. You let it come to you. It..So he cherished his free hours as if they were actual meetings with her. He had always loved her..he would be the one true king. Alone among men he would speak the words of making and unmaking. He..Ilien was the first of his house to take the throne in Havnor. His granddaughter was Queen Heru; "I understand, no need to go on. All right. So it's a kind of safety measure? Very strange!"..She turned away from him and them and went on up the hill in the gathering darkness. As she went..I. Iria.They came out into the calm, open evening air. The west still held some brightness as they crossed..other was his servant.."Ach, it's a witch's den," Crow said, at the whiff of herbs and aromatic smoke, and he stepped back.."Third time's the charm.."..in the darkness of the earth. She was utterly content to be there. Yet always, without discontent..jacket around his shoulders and gave him water from his flask. Then he squatted beside him, his..but there's no more in that than a few drops. It's scarcely worth burning for so little. If you..I must be going now, I told them voicelessly, with my lips only. I began to back off in the..fellow in a worn sea-cloak. Ivory flourished his staff a little in greeting him. The sorcerer.."What was your errand in O Port?"..to fear him. I do not need to fear his power. I do not need his power. I must see him, to be sure..Irioth came up onto the doorstep. He did not go in, but spoke in the open door. "Master San, it's about the cattle you have there between the rivers. I can go to them today." He did not know why he said this. It was not what he had meant to say..rebuilt, Ogion escaped from praise and went up into the hills above Gont Port. He found the queer..The history of the Fourteen Kings of Havnor (actually six kings and eight queens, ~150-400) is.."Times I could shake his fool head off," she said, and went back to her work..looked back at him with a grin..for them unless they had a bagman of their own aboard. So they came back up the length of the..Gelluk wore fantastic clothes, as many of his kind did in those days. A long robe of Lorbanery..never seen wild swine in the wood, she saw their tracks here. For a moment she caught the scent of..that from there, from behind the glass plate, some giant face was grimacing at me, meditating.."Like the Library of the Kings," said Crow, dreaming of lost glories.."Are. . . are we still in the station?"..riddle song of which the last line has to do, maybe, with the man who was Medra, and Otter, and falling. Then he walked forward, stiff and awkward, trying not to resist the coercive, passionate..time to time, and then shut his eyes.

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