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against him, so that he destroyed himself." He thought for a long time, and said, "She gave me her. then lit up, as if by a momentary dawn. Farther on, long, low silhouettes sailed past, much like." "You ought to go, Di," she said. "Just to find out." the forests that were or might yet be. "And sometimes the Grove is in this place," he said, "and." "Seems to be a hard place to find," Hound said. Medra had been thinking, once again, and still unavailingly, how he could leave Havnor at once and. All day he stayed near the Otter's House, keeping watch on Irian, making her eat a little with him. She came to the house, but when they had eaten she went back to her place on the streambank and sat there motionless. And he too felt a lethargy in his own body and mind, a stupidity, which he fought against but could not shake off. He thought of the Summoner's eyes, and then it was that he felt cold, cold through, though he was sitting in the full heat of the summer's day. We are ruled by the dead, he thought. The thought would not leave him. But Heleth was shaking his head: "No," he said, "no time. Not your kind of thing." He was more and more distracted by whatever it was he sensed in the earth or air, and through him Ogion felt that gathering, intolerable tension. They met in the lane under Iria Hill in the dark of night, long after sunset, long before dawn. guess Otak did. But he did no harm to the man at all, but fell down in a swoon himself. And now he. "Why can't we build fishing boats, the way we used to?" he asked, and his father said, "Because. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (57 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. find the center. That's the question to ask. That's what to do..." As he muttered on to himself, A long silence. Hardic, that is a banner of war." liquid hu-hu-hu-hu that made people call them laughing owls. She heard it with a mournful heart. had won his staff on Roke, was used to having boys come to him begging to be tested and, if they. all's square between us for now, right?" the Patterner. "Who told you about it?" cruel, and he hugged her again and said she was the kindest mother in the world, and so she went to Pody if you like. And then back to Orrimy. I've had about enough." give up everything you love!" across the glade. Before bright Ea was, before Segoy. years, in the minds of most people, all magic was black. the veins of water underground, the lodes and knots of ore, the lay and interfolding of the kinds. A slight, brown man sitting at the table looked up at him. stare, as long as they did not concern me directly. Curiously, the people who gaped at us on. carter to the forester. "Sweet as new butter, he is." Golden, unaware of being sweet, thought only. mother's dying of. No healer could cure her. But she could heal the scrofula, and touch for pain. "Well, take care. I saw the fox on the full-moon night," Dulse said, and went on his way. you are, fire and shadows and curses and falling down in fits. Uncanny. Always was uncanny, that. Great House, I feel that nothing can be done but what has been done. That nothing will change. "Speed the work," he said gravely. Again he paused. All at once he looked straight at Otter, who froze in terror thinking the wizard had caught him watching his mind. Gelluk stared at him a while with that curious half-keen, half-unseeing gaze, smiling. "Little Medra!" he said, as if just discovering he was there. He patted Otter's shoulder. "I know you have the gift of finding what's hidden. Quite a great gift, were it suitably trained. Have no fear, my son. I know why you led my servants only to the little lode, playing and delaying. But now that I've come, you serve me, and have nothing to be afraid of. And there's no use trying to conceal anything from me, is there? The wise child loves his father and obeys him, and the father rewards him as he deserves." He leaned very close, as he liked to do, and said gently, confidentially, "I'm sure you can find the great lode." suddenly the lion tore his rough shag from my hands, turned his enormous head toward her, and. "And when he doesn't have any?" fountain in a silver basin sprang up in the centre of the table, and when the Master and his. a misty drizzle now, they stayed hunched up under the henhouse eaves, disconsolate. The King had. bodily strength came back soon, for he was young, but his mind was slow to find itself. He had. say. But you should know that leaving Roke may be even harder than coming to it. Prison within. some kind. This happened so suddenly that I froze. often have brown or even blond hair and light eyes; the men are often bearded. Their language and. But ever the other will be the same. of those arts. His talk of the Allking and the Red Mother was mere words. And not the right words. glory was there in the palaces of the city when nobody lived in them but crawling slaves? He could. the tavern crew wouldn't let it rest, it being the only thing of interest to talk about for the. "But it was you who said. . .to practice and lead to no good thing." "You can't walk all night." "You must find the true womb, the bellybag of the Earth, that holds the pure moonseed. Did you know that the Moon is the Earth's father? Yes, yes; and he lay with her, as is the father's right. He quickened her base clay with the true seed. But she will not give birth to the King. She is strong in her fear and willful in her vileness. She holds him back and hides him deep, fearing to give birth to her master. That is why, to give him birth, she must be burned alive." and power. "He was too much for 'em, was he? And he'll be too much for me," he thought, and. fluff that became more and more transparent as it descended. Her slim, lovely belly was like a. "My own, sir. It is Irian." "I am." heed. But if they knew we had five men of power, they'd seek to destroy us again." naked in the chill of the rain. All her will was aimed on walking forward; she had nothing else in. "When he gets himself a girl," Golden said, in answer to whatever it was she had been saying. for the Earth itself. Some think all dragons, or certain dragons, or certain people, are. He left her at the corner of the street, a narrow, dull, somehow sly-looking street that slanted up between featureless walls to a wooden door in a higher wall. He had put his spell on her, and she looked like a man, though she did not feel like one. She and Ivory took each other in their arms, because after all they had been friends, companions, and he had done all this for her. "Courage!" he said, and let her go. She walked up the street and stood before the door. She looked back then, but he was gone. "We couldn't hide the wrestle we'd had with him, though we said as little about it as we could. And many there said good riddance, for he'd always been half mad, and now was mad entirely. miserable men dispossessed of their living, driven by hunger to raid and rob." His voice had

become very soft, very dark..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..After a while Ged gently drew the older man to him and held him in his arms. He said something quietly to him and let him go. Irioth drew a deep breath..She went to the wall, and it opened like a small bar. She stood in front of the opening..and for the sake of the balance of all things, I bid you now leave this island. We cannot give you."Can I know the secret?" he asked after a while..Lebannen. Then, as the dragon bore our friend away, the Summoner fell down..body understand his body, repeating that first, deep embrace that had held all the years of their.there was nothing but shame and pain and anger in it for Golden. So he had his tragedy.."And what is a real? ".all come to be considered unclean, the belief was already widespread that men must prepare.of pulling it off, but it pleased him as a gesture of disrespect to all the piety and pomposity of."And a man comes when you knock, an ordinary-looking man. And he gives you a test. You have to say a certain word, a password, before he'll let you in. If you don't know it, you can never go in. But if he lets you in, then from inside you see that the door is entirely different - it's made out of horn, with a tree carved on it, and the frame is made out of a tooth, one tooth of a dragon that lived long, long before Erreth-Akbe, before Morred, before there were people in Earthsea. There were only dragons, to begin with. They found the tooth on Mount Onn, in Havnor, at the centre of the world. And the leaves of the tree are carved so thin that the light shines through them, but the door's so strong that if the Doorkeeper shuts it no spell could ever open it. And then the Doorkeeper takes you down a hall and another hall, till you're lost and bewildered, and then suddenly you come out under the sky. In the Court of the Fountain, in the very deepest inside of the Great House. And that's where the Archmage would be, if he was there..."He came through the halls and stone corridors to the inmost place, the marble-paved courtyard of."The witch Rose of our village, lord," she answered, standing straight, though her voice came out."Ivory," said the Doorkeeper. "A lad from Havnor Great Port, whom I let in three years ago, and."A raft for you, sir?" came a courteous voice behind me. I turned around; no one, only a.Enemy's spells, fought one another in bloody and ruinous battles..put him on a ship for Roke. They thought maybe the Masters there could tame him." .So Diamond, instead of learning spells and illusions and transformations and all such gaudy tricks, as Hemlock called them, sat in a narrow room at the back of the wizard's narrow house on a narrow back street of the old city, memorizing long, long lists of words, words of power in the Language of the Making. Plants and parts of plants and animals and parts of animals and islands and parts of islands, parts of ships, parts of the human body. The words never made sense, never made sentences, only lists. Long, long lists..The dragons offered no threat during this period, and the Kargs had withdrawn into their own internal quarrels, but the disintegration of the society of the Archipelago worsened as the years went on. Moral and intellectual continuity lay only in the knowledge and teaching of The Creation and the other myths and hero-stories, and in the preservation of crafts and skills: among them the art magic used for right ends..Diamond had no idea what to say. The idea of its being up to him had not occurred to him. "Do you.Crow ranted, but at the mere thought that the Book of Names might still exist he was ready to set.slow, very careful, he began to speak the spell of calling.."Of all of us. Of Way, and Felkway, and Havnor, and Wathort, and Roke. All the people of the.name but said only, "mistress.."He was here!" she cried. "That foul heart, that Thorion!" She strode to meet the Patterner as he came into the starlight by the house. "I was bathing in the stream, and he stood there watching me!" .buckets, going to the pump. She would not use the stream water for anything at all, these days..must come through you to her it belongs to. That's the power, the way it works. It's all like.spared him he would tell them all about the Hand, and Roke, and the great mages of Roke..After this struggle, the line of the Kargish kings continued in Hupun, nominally honored but.by sea and storm but by their defenses that disguised the island and sent ships astray, they."A sending - only a seeming of him. It could not hurt you, Irian.."As he came down the last slope of the mountain, he had seen houses here and there out in the marshlands, a village not far away. He had thought he was on the way to the village, but had taken a wrong turning somewhere. Tall reeds rose up close beside the paths, so that if a light shone anywhere he could not see it. Water chuckled softly somewhere near his feet. He had used up his shoes walking round Andanden on the cruel roads of black lava. The soles were worn right through, and his feet ached with the icy damp of the marsh paths..and crouched down by the enormous, hunching roots of a willow that leaned out over the water. The.sea is between two great headlands, the Gates of the Port, the Armed Cliffs, not a hundred feet.control. I sat, finally. The pink letters of STRATO flickered and flowed into others: TERMINAL. No.The white-haired man looked at the two women. Other people had come forward, and there was some."Indeed, for the sailors feared him too, and kept him bound that way all the voyage. When the.Oraby, Daisy and Goldie and the one they called the Burning Bush. He had to sit with the young men.Before their marriage, a mage or wizard, whose name is never given except as the Enemy of Morred or the Wandlord, had paid court to Elfarran. Unforgiving and determined to possess her, in the few years of peace that followed the marriage this man developed immense power of magery. After five years he came forth and announced, in the words of the poem,.It was peaceful here with the woman and the cat. He had come to a good house..over that..He had not thought. He had taken the shape that came soonest to him, run to the river as an otter would, swum as the otter would swim. But only in his own form could he think as a man, hide, decide, act as a man or as a wizard against the wizard who hunted him..something she'd always known, while the answers to his questions were things she had never.A century and a half after Morred's death, King Akambar, a prince of Shelieth on Way, moved the court to Havnor and made Havnor Great Port the capital of the kingdom. More central than Enlad, Havnor was better placed for trade and for sending out fleets to protect the Hardic islands against Kargish raids and forays.."Anieb," he whispered, "conic

with me".worry," and got to his feet. "Rest easy," he said..Dragonfly rolled her head round on her neck, stretching till the vertebrae cracked, stretching out.The curer checked the girths, eased a strap, and got up in the saddle, not expertly, but the hinny.They had no patience with him either, always at him to hurry up and get done with the job; nor.him, stroke him, and he purred louder; behind him flashed another pair of eyes, another lion, no.,group of people under the big oak on the hilltop. When Tarry's band of harp, fife, viol, and drum.He laid his hands on the seam of earth, but there was no power in them..She held up her first finger; raised the other fingers, and clenched them together into a fist; then slowly turned her wrist and opened her hand palm out, as if in offering. He had seen Anieb make that gesture. It was not a spell, he thought, watching intently, but a sign. Ayo was watching him.. "Oh, are you a teller? Oh, why didn't you say so to begin with! Is that what you are then? I.That is, human beings chose to have possessions and dragons chose not to. But, as there are.the high pasture, in the noon light, Heleth opened his arms wide in the gesture of invocation that.Queen Heru, called the Eagle, inherited the throne from her father, Denggemal of the House of Ilien. Her consort Aiman was of the House of Morred. When she had ruled thirty years she gave the crown to their son Maharion.. "The Patterner sent for us," said the Master Herbal. He looked uncomfortable. Noticing a clump of weeds under the window, he said, "That's velvet. Somebody from Havnor planted it here. Didn't know there was any on the island." He examined it attentively, and put some seedpods into his pouch..sport, but never eat their kill. Since time immemorial, until the reign of Heru, they had used."Who says that?" Thoreg's daughter. As an old woman she gave this to the young wizard Ged, shipwrecked on her."I guess we were children," he said. "Now....".Once instead of smiling and agreeing, she said, "It's lovely to have him back, but" and Golden stopped hearing. Mothers were born to worry about their children, and women were born never to be content. There was no reason why he should listen to the litany of anxieties by which Tuly hauled herself through life. Of course she thought a merchant's life wasn't good enough for the boy. She'd have thought being King in Havnor wasn't good enough for him..In the west of Havnor, among hills forested with oak and chestnut, is the town of Glade. A while

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