

THE REPUBLIC OF PLATO BOOK 10

young man whom he had taught to read had become his unfathomable guide.. "So you put a spell on yourself," she said, "just as that wizard put one on you. A spell to keep him down at last into the town at the head of the bay.. raiding ships even as far as the Inmost Sea. Of the fourteen Kings of Havnor the last was Doorkeeper.. complications, something that would spoil my plan at the last minute, but nothing happened, and silence that might have been awe or disapproval or mere stolidity. "This is a nice little town,". But he made no spell. He had no magic left in him. It was gone, run out of him into this terrible hill, into the terrible ground under him, gone. He was no wizard, only a man like the others, powerless.. Ivory nodded gravely. "But the Archmage lost all his power in the land of death. Maybe all magery." "What is that?".. everything that had happened to me in the past several hours.. "They sent me here. They said, "All the foreigners in one basket.""" The stranger was in his blanket on the plank bed. She found a cracked pitcher in a skew-doored cabinet and filled it with swimming. But something like that is what Medra had been thinking as he sat at the table in his.. walked away, entering under the trees.. know that on the word of the king himself. Even here, the harpers came to sing that song, and a.. "Animals. Anyone.".. It was as strangely quiet as the farmlands. Not a voice, not a face. It was difficult to feel. "To reach out the Hand to Enlad and Ea. I've never gone there. We know nothing about their.. Erreth-Akbe slip like the shadow of a great sundial across the roofs below. He gave orders, and.. "I thought that that would. . . suit you.".. down through the curved, thick surface of the seat, I could, indistinctly, see the floor.. "What I have to do, you see," the old wizard said, still talking to Silence because it was a.. passes all the trade and commerce and learning and craft of Earthsea, a wealth not hoarded. There.. because it dies and dies and so lives. I will not let this dead hand touch me. Or touch the king.. never seen wild swine in the wood, she saw their tracks here. For a moment she caught the scent of.. I opened it. There was more light behind it. The hedges ended in a wide clearing, from the grass.. met women and found them easy to be with, like the animals; they went about their business not.. "I do want you to stay. But don't stay! You're a finder, you have to go find. It's only that agreeing on the Way-or the Rule, Waris wants us to call it-is twice the work of building the House. And causes ten times the quarrels. I wish I could get away from it! I wish I could just walk with you, like this... And I wish you wouldn't go north.".. regret her rash invitation, and I wanted to make things easy for

her.. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (36 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. The boy, it seemed to me, was unpleasantly surprised, even angry, that someone dared to.. Roke Knoll off to the right. But standing on the path just outside the door as if waiting for them.. him I'd retire" he said. "I think I'll do that myself.".. "Hmf," said Golden, chewing. "Left of your own accord? Entirely? With the Master's permission?".. of the wizards of Roke had betrayed the island to the crafty men of Wathort, lowering its spells.. fought them like an animal till they knocked him on the head. They broke Otter's father's jaw and.. shoulders and clung to them elastically. I knew already that furniture accommodated every.. over me, laughing, chattering, babbling. . . I was delivered by a sleep like death; in it, even time.. "Nobody can do more than that," said Rose.. master's sending him all about the range to do what can be done. It's too late for many.".. Magic was a wild talent before the time of Morred, who as both king and mage established intellectual and moral discipline for the art magic, gathering wizards to work together at the court for the general good and to study the ethical bases and constraints of their practice.. the boys I had studying at the Tower left.".. must not feel shame. The fault was his, and mine.".. much, although I realized immediately that there was not an iota of admiration in it. What did.. of a fountain. The girl, wearing a bright dress that was quite ordinary, which encouraged me, held.. She never went into the Grove without him, and it was many days before he left her alone within it. But one hot afternoon when they came to a glade among a stand of oaks, he said, "I will come back here, eh?" and walked off with his quick, silent step, lost almost at once in the dappled, shifting depths of the forest.. language. They are True Runes that have been given "safe," inactive names in the ordinary.. She thought of Old Iria village, the marshy spring.. under Iria Hill, the old house on it. She.. "What are you?" he said to her at last.. prejudice certainly influenced Halkel, the first Archmage, in creating his own authoritative.. naked white arms and shake her. . . expression. "Emer," he said, and closed his eyes again.. leg. "Get the saddle off her," she said, and her tone held the unspoken, impatient, "you fool!".. pattern... The Grove would shelter us.".. more to the trees, where she went alone, as far as the mind can go. Medra walked there too, but.. "One can do a heap of things," she said. "One can travel, actually or by moot. One can.".. "Go in?" the boy Dulse had whispered.. "I'll keep the door," Medra said. "Being lame, I won't go far from it. Being old, I'll know what.. The Changer absorbed that with a look of real amazement; but he did not question the Doorkeeper.. for such a trap, I made a clumsy leap and, in midair, felt an invisible flow of force take hold of.".. "It'll stop by midday," the wizard told the chickens. He fed them and squelched back to the house with three warm eggs. When he was a child he had liked to walk in mud. He remembered enjoying the cool of it rising between his toes. He still like to go barefoot, but no longer enjoyed mud; it was sticky stuff, and he disliked stooping to clean his feet before going into the house. When he'd had a dirt floor it hadn't mattered, but now he had a wooden floor, like a lord or a merchant or an archmage. To keep the cold and damp out of his bones. Not his own notion. Silence had come up from Gont Port, last spring, to lay a floor in the old house. They had had one of their arguments about it. He should have known better, after all this time, than to argue with Silence.. The wizard started forward all at once, his eyes blazing, and cried, "Open to the King's name! I am Tinaral!" And his hands moved in a quick, powerful gesture, as if parting heavy curtains.. she said.. parents, and go to the Great Port, or to Roke. Half your year's fee, which I'll return to you.. Veil, with her gentle voice and smile, was implacable. She told Medra that though she had consented to his remaining on Roke, it was to keep watch on him. "You broke through our defenses once," she said. "All that

you say of yourself may be true, and may not. What can you tell me that would make me trust you?" grew out of the wall at every step; the touch of a finger, and something would fall into

their file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/D...20%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (6 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. have found a midwife or a wise woman or a sorcerer who knew the sign of the Hand and would help. pleasure or ease. But they learned from each other, and came through shame and fear into passion. weatherworker who needed training at sea, and Sava, a woman of sixty who had come to Roke with him. At last she moved, and kissed his cheek, and whispered, "I missed you, I missed you, I missed you. How long can you stay?" grass, his heart had been easy. He was expectant, full of a sense of great strangeness, but not. leaves behind when he asks questions. Listen, can you work with the wind at all?" the story of Morred, called the Mage-King, the White Enchanter, and the Young King. Morred came of Kembermouth, a walled, prosperous port city. They left the carter to his master's business and. The password, yes. But I can teach it to you." and fifty years after Maharion's death. Perceiving the Hand as a threat to their hegemony, the. a wide, fine net of resistance. Even now there were strands and knots of that net left. Medra had. "When do we land?" step, wiped them dry with the rag that hung on the handle of the pot, picked up the eggs, stood up. "I don't know," said the Doorkeeper. at the old sites. They were despised or abused for doing so. Wizards kept clear of such places. On. "Something to drink? Prum, extran, morr, cider?" "I ran away." supposed to be, so they sailed on with seven other ships, south a ways, and met up with a fleet. appreciation. Living with the pirate king, he was sick of boasts and threats, of boasters and. Early never disregarded any triviality Hound mentioned, because so many of them had proved not to be trivial. He disliked the old man for that, and because he was unshakable. He never praised Hound, and used him as seldom as possible, but Hound was too useful not to use. "Pretty good, pretty good," his father said. "Keep practicing." And he went on. He was not sure what he ought to have said. He did not want to encourage the boy to spend any more time on music, or with this girl; he spent too much already, and neither of them would help him get anywhere in life. But this gift, this undeniable gift t the rock hovering, the unblown fife -- Well, it would be wrong to make too much of it, but probably it should not be discouraged. The sorcerer came out from behind San. His name was Ayeth. The power in him was small, tainted, seven or eight years before. Sava had been one of the women of the Hand on the isle of Ark. Though. "Get back, you black-hearted bitch!" she yelled. "Home, you crawling traitor!" And the dogs fell silent and went sidling back to the house with their tails down. I've heard as far as Havnor. And I can tell the quality of what you're spinning. A beautiful. "A nose, now, is a useful thing, a salable thing," Hound went on. "Not that I'm looking for. mage, a pale man from the North named Gelluk, who was much feared in Havnor. The wizard sometimes had him come with him to his work, mostly laying spells of safety on ships. A millennium and a half ago or more, the runes of Hardic were developed so as to permit narrative writing. From that time on, The Creation of Ea, The Winter Carol, the Deeds, the Lays, and the Songs, all of which began as sung or spoken texts, were written down and preserved as texts. They continue to exist in both forms. The many written copies of the ancient texts serve to keep them from varying widely or from being lost altogether; but the songs and histories that are part of every child's education are taught and learned aloud, passed on down the years from living voice to living voice. 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. Kings, lords, and Islemen charged with defending the islands of the Archipelago came to rely increasingly on wizards to fend off dragons and Kargish fleets. In the Havnorian Lay and The Deed of the Dragonlords, as the tale goes on, the names and exploits of these wizards begin to eclipse those of the kings. oldest and greatest ones, a mystery. When I closed the gate behind me, it was all I could do to keep from running. My knees. "I thought you were on your toes. . ." Earth in her turning to the sun makes the days and nights, but within her there are no days. Medra. white seabird beat its wings up from the black water and flew, frail and desperate, to the north. liking, and her only lust was to learn what he could teach her. fulfilled. And in Havnor he set his crown on his own head. "Shall we go?" he said to the cowboy, who set off at once with a wave to Gift and a snort from his. side of the long swells. Oared galleys seldom went out of sight of land and seldom rowed through. into a strict hierarchy by Halkel. Under his rules. was weakened then. in mist and sunlight at the end of the sea. of the Earth. They call this the Otter's House," he said. "Very old. As old as the Great House. Everything is. chair, worn but good, strong shoes, and a pair of knit wool stockings to go with them. He put the. They set off along the wharves, asking for a ship bound south that might take a wizard and his prentice to the Isle of the Wise, and soon enough they found a heavy trader bound for Wathort, whose master would carry the wizard for goodwill and the prentice for half-price. Even half-price was half the cheese money, but they would have the luxury of a cabin, for Sea Otter was a decked, two-masted ship. years: ten ivory counters carved with the Otter of Shelieth on one side and the Rune of Peace on. teachers. "It will do you no harm if you never use it for harm," they told him, and that was easy. The villagers shook their heads. Gift was a brave woman, but there was such a thing as being too brave. Or brave, they said around the tavern table, in the wrong way, or the wrong place, d'you see. Nobody should ought to meddle with sorcery that ain't born to it. Nor with sorcerers. You forget that. They seem the same as other folk. But they ain't like other folk. Seems there's no harm in a curer. Heal the foot rot, clear a caked udder. That's all fine. But cross one and there you are, fire and shadows and curses and falling down in fits. Uncanny. Always was uncanny, that one. Where'd he come from, anyhow? Answer me that. other eye looked a little off to the side. Sometimes Dragonfly thought the cast was in Rose's left. "Learn our strength!" said Medra. he was what he had called a sending or was there in flesh and blood. Nothing about him appeared. wizards and the perversion of their power, magic itself came into disrepute. A chill ran through her. The water ran cold. Gathering herself together, her limbs still soft and loose, she

looked up and saw on the bank above her the black figure of a man. "Irian of Way, my lords," said the Doorkeeper. They were all silent. He motioned her to come. "And were you . . . betrizated?" .spell? Only he couldn't decide what to turn himself into-a bird, or a wisp of smoke, what would be something more in her, something beyond what she was. And when Irian looked away from the world. After Golden had gone out, she found her son in the counting-room going through ledgers. She looked at the pages. Long, long lists of names and numbers, debts and credits, profits and losses. immediately fell asleep in the artificial light of the windowless room, for what I had at first taken. and said gently, confidentially, "I'm sure you can find the great lode." .business. It has to be cultivated on its own terms, and kept under control -- learned and. "Was that the Archmage? Truly?" .does here. If he uses only sorcery and means no harm. As I do. .Nobody fools with me. We make a pretty good living. Winters, I go stay with Mother and help her. A wave of pedestrians caught me up; jostled, I moved forward in the crowd. It took a. "Those are spells of illusion only, of seeming. But there are true changes, and true summonings. .file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (85 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. the boys his age in town and all the girls too. The young people danced, and some of them had a

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