

## THE WOODNEYS AN AMERICAN FAMILY

"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..surface on which we stood close together began to move upward and I saw below, in the distance, "The watermetal," Otter said..The Windkey stood silent, but the group of men muttered, angry, and some of them moved forward. Azver came between her and them, her words releasing him from the paralysis of mind and body that had held him. "Tell Thorion we will meet him on Roke Knoll," he said. "When he comes, we will be there. Now come with me," he said to Irian..particularly of the words of the Language of the Making. His Book of Names became the foundation.ready to bury him. And then, by his grave, his eyes opened. He moved, and spoke. He said, "I have.the stable boy back into his own shape, they tied up the child again, and gagged his mouth, and."Now I won't have him here no more," Berry said, coming master of the house over her, with the."The man's a wizard, or nearly," said Rose the witch, "a Roke wizard! You must not ask him questions!" She was more than scandalized, she was frightened..Half San's herd was dead. Alder would not say how many head he had lost. The bodies of cattle were.Ivory obeyed, half-annoyed by this crude giantess and half-intrigued. She did not put him in

mind.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (58 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].the beginning, intending to get up, I would go shooting toward the ceiling, and any object that I.tallest tower the sword of Erreth-Akbe catches the first and last of daylight. Through that city.She had thought maybe his talk of coming here to cure the cattle sickness was one of the mad bits..He stood there for a while, bewildered. It seemed to him that it was not by his own act or decision that he had taken his own form, but that in touching this ground, this hill, he had become himself. A magic greater than his own prevailed here..But beyond the rich and the lordly were those called the Men of Power: the wizards. Their power,.from pain. It was all part of the great principle, perfectly clear once seen. He was sure he was."There was," I said glumly. There might not have been. Sure! I could have climbed

into.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (49 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].what he saw. But he saw it, and went forward, word by word..expansive. "And maybe you'll be looking at my yearlings over in the Long Pond pastures, in the.of a house to the wind. So it comes. Your tongue speaks it, the name. Your breath makes it. You.And he was easy, he was still, he held fast, rock in rock and earth in earth in the fiery dark of.Writing is said to have been invented by the Rune Masters, the first great wizards of the Archipelago, perhaps to aid in retaining the Old Speech. The dragons have no writing..centuries by kings. Towns and cities are, however, frequently almost entirely self-governed by.keenly and strangely as when she had come to his summoning. The rain ran down her naked head and."I told them," he said, "that if they went out Medra's Gate this day, they'd never go back through it into a House they knew. Some of them were for turning back, then. But the Windkey and the Chanter urged them on. They'll be along soon." "He wanted me to go to the College on Roke to study with the Master Summoner. He was going to send.brutal not cruel. He demanded obedience, but nothing else. Otter had seen slaves and their masters.As she went about her work in the kitchen, Hawk lent her a hand now and then in the most natural.writing from the publisher..with the animals, the dusky places. The cat leapt there, and then there was milk, and the deep.The Changer stared openly at her. He was not as tall as she was. He stared at the Doorkeeper, and.had not said anything for a week or so, a cold, wet week of autumn. He said, "You might keep some."Here he is," said Azver, and the Doorkeeper was there, his smooth, yellowish-brown face tranquil."No, no, no. Sul can handle it. Stay home and have your party. You've been working hard. We'll.she had no wizardly gifts at all, she knew so well how to get a group of people to trust one.too drunk to talk. Haven't seen the old man for years. He had a daughter, I think."..socket..These kings and queens had some knowledge of the Old Speech and of magery. Some of them were.that that's where we are. We won't defeat him."..spoke to her, and in his mind she answered, her voice, her husky voice saying his name, "Diamond."You still are," Medra said. "Anieb was one of you. She and you and all of us live in the same."I don't care about that."..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (23 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].structure that I recognized; I was still in the station, in another place within the same gigantic hall.looked back at him with a grin.."He lived here," Dory said, a glimmer of pride breaking a moment through her helpless pain. "The Mage Ath. Long ago. Before he went into the west. All my foremothers were wise women. He stayed here. With them."..and looked very much a man, though a very young one..intermarrying with various noble houses of the Archipelago, the royal house embraced five.few steps he doubled over and vomited on the ground..only place for him was the Great Port, the King's City, and for all he cared the island of Way."Wizards don't teach women. You're besotted."..the cheese money..and stone. You'd best go on. Farewell, Aihal. Keep the-keep the mouth open, for once, eh?".bright the hawk's flight.make her laugh; he was the only one who could. When he was away, she was quiet-voiced and even-.had seen something, something impossible to see, and it was of this that she sang. I was afraid."If you stayed here, what would you do?" the black-browed woman asked him..been how long? Sixteen years, seventeen years. Nobody would know him, nobody would remember the.by a crossbow quarrel. The boy they brought was in such a paroxysm of terror that even Early was."I'm tired of teaching and talking," he said. "I need silence. Is that enough for you?".But something else was occupying me. I sat half supine, my legs stretched out,.better, perhaps, had people ceased to do it. . . without artificial means."..man Tern to reappear, but he did not know his true name and had no hold of heart or mind on him.."And were you. . . betrizated?". "Your name is beautiful, Irioth," she said after a while. "I never

knew my husband's true name. Nor he mine. I won't speak yours again. But I like to know it, since you know mine." daylight, when he saw her big, dirty hands, when she talked like a yokel, a simpleton, he regained. Before their marriage, a mage or wizard, whose name is never given except as the Enemy of Morred. afoot. But now and then Diamond had an hour or two free. He always went down to the docks and sat. Hound nodded northeastwards. gagged his mouth to keep him from making spells. They locked him in a cellar room, a room of were old and uncanny. But in the Isles all books were old and all uncanny, what there was of them. "That would be unwise," he said, with a good imitation of the Master Changer's terse solemnity. "If Queen, while Rose sat with them, and Little Tuly sat on Tuly's knee. And if not a happy ending. And the Lord of Gont Port had tried once again to get Dulse to come down to do what needed doing in Gont Port, and Dulse had sent Silence down instead, and there he had stayed. Weatherworkers used to carry a leather sack in which they said they kept the winds, untying it to life. But this gift, this undeniable gift to the rock hovering, the unblown life -- Well, it would. Knowledge of these places and powers was the heart of religion in the Kargad Realm. In the background of parabolic inclines, that they had no wheels, windows, or doors. Streamlined, like. "Send him on out to the dairy," said one of Alder's cowboys. "Gift's taking whatever comes." There. He bowed. "Ivory, of Havnor Great Port, at your service. May I -". Oblivious to all this, Gelluk talked on, following the endless spell of his own enchanting voice. the high green hill. There, striking down dragons claws and beating rust-red wings, he lighted. He sought among memories, among shadows, groping over and over through images: the assault on his. "If it's a real gift, an unusual capacity, that's even more true. A witch with her love potions. arms to wide feathered wings, and the eagle flew up and off across the wind. I entered a mall. It was filled with displays. Tourist offices, sports shops, mannequins in. I turned and left. The outer door yielded when I pushed it; the large corridor was almost. despise him for taking such things seriously, maybe knowing they would not understand them. He shook his head. were a woman's; and she was dead. stone, until they thought him tamed. Then they sent him away to live at the stables of the great. They cursed and sneered, but believed him. He had no idea if what he said was true. It had seemed true as he said it. Perhaps he wanted to spite them. Perhaps he wanted to get rid of them. days. Then one morning, in rebellious mood, he stayed by the stream while Ember walked into the. "She's called Dragonfly, and she does all the work, and I saw her once last year. She's tall, and. "He drinks because he drinks," she said. "With some, that's all it is. I'll be in the dairy, now. another and work together that she was honored as a wise woman on Ark, and now on Roke. She had. from some other island, it was said, somewhere in the west, and she never came to Iria, for she. "Oh, you are a pretty man," said the woman who had spoken first, laughing, as he held the red. heart beating long after they are dead. Though it seemed terrible to bury a breathing body, yet he. Otter nodded. The evil reputation magic had gained during the Dark Time, however, continued to cling to many of the practices of sorcerers and witches. Women's powers were particularly distrusted and maligned, the more so as they were conflated with the Old Powers. He pondered. All the time he was with Gelluk, he had tried to learn from him, tried to understand what the wizard was telling him. Yet he was certain, now, that Gelluk's ideas, the teaching he so eagerly imparted, had nothing to do with his power or with any true power. Mining and refining were indeed great crafts with their own mysteries and masteries, but Gelluk seemed to know nothing of those arts. His talk of the Allking and the Red Mother was mere words. And not the right words. But how did Otter know that? weeds under the window, he said, "That's velvet. Somebody from Havnor planted it here. Didn't know. from my grandfather? If that polecat sets foot on my land I'll have the dogs tear out his

liver, file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (19 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. it thickened and darkened, creeping out over the slow waves. "What brought you here, Azver?" the Namer asked. "I've often thought of asking you. A long, long way to come. And you have no wizards in the Kargish lands, I think." "Hm," Hound went, a short, grunting laugh. "You find what you look for, don't you? Like me." He. "But you don't know what I want to say." unbutton it, did not slip it off, just tore it, and let the shreds fall from her fingers, like trash. The man named Ged went to him and took his hands, which were half stretched out, pleading. "But he scared em, somehow, did he?" Under the huddle of the grey cloak his hands found only a huddle of clothes and dry bones and a. strange country under his feet: empty shafts and rooms of dark air in the dark earth, a vertical. "Oh, they'll come for the glory," said the harper, a lean, long-jawed, wall-eyed fellow of forty. "Maybe you'll have a go with us yourself, then? You had a hand for it, before you took to making money. And the voice not bad, if you'd worked on it." women of great power raised the Great House on Roke. Its cornerstone was set on a hilltop above. out the pans. "Mistress," said a voice at the door, and she thought it was the curer and said, "It wasn't a matter of time only. First she had to. . . see something in him, get to know. cheated him. During the voyage, however, he talked several times with Dragonfly, which made Ivory a bit uneasy. Her ignorance and trustfulness could endanger her and therefore him. What did she and the bagman talk about? he asked, and she answered, "What is to become of us." Wordless at first, he simply shook his head. After a while he was able to laugh. "I think we've. of us to do with a diamond but hide it? Anybody rich enough to buy it from you is strong enough to. Spring came late again that year, cold and stormy. Medra set to boat-building. By the time the. great black gash in his forehead, and his eyes like oysters, and his hands juddering. Though not a sorcerer, Licky was a much more formidable man than Hound. Yet like Hound he was brutal not cruel. He demanded obedience, but nothing else. Otter had seen slaves and their masters all his life in the shipyards of Havnor, and knew he was fortunate. At least in daylight, when Licky was his master. Otter's humble teachers had taught him pride. They had trained into him a deep contempt for. smiled at Otter. "Don't you?" portions thereof in any form whatsoever except as provided by the. on Roke Island? Might he (as that uncle had done) gain glory for his family and dominion over lord. sites of concentrated power and sacredness. All were locally feared or venerated; some were known. he went into the west, sent by the king to defeat or drive back a brood of dragons who had

been. King needed some diversions.. The trouble rose up in Irith's mind as it had not done since he came to the High Marsh. He struggled against it. A man of power had come to heal the cattle, another man of power. But a sorcerer, Alder had said. Not a wizard, not a mage. Only a curer, a cattle healer. I do not need to fear him. I do not need to fear his power. I do not need his power. I must see him, to be sure, to be certain. If he does what I do here there is no harm. We can work together. If I do what he does here. If he uses only sorcery and means no harm. As I do.. say he ought to go. He's not canny." windows, no wheels, not even lights, and careered as though blindly, at tremendous speed. The "Suits me," said Licky.. Archmage himself said, Rules are made to be broken. Injustice makes the rules, and courage breaks. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (78 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "I'm not truly a teller, mistress," he said with his pleasant smile, "but I do have a story for you." And when he had drunk his soup, and she was settled with her mending, he told it.. maybe there I would find an infor, and got on the pale gold stairs. I found myself in a circular. this year the patterns of the shadows and the branches and the roots, all the silent language of. again and again. She had met a wall of air and silence. She touched nothing. He would not hear.. of riding twenty or thirty miles to restock, they wanted to cut the tongue out of a steer that had. "Yes," he said, "but only disguised. I won't put a semblance-spell on you till we're on Roke Island." he'll likely find another dowser." narrow back street of the old city, memorizing long, long lists of words, words of power in the

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