

THEATRE MAGAZINE

"Excuse me." I touched the arm of the man in fur. "Where are we?" I found myself in a forest of fountains; farther along I came upon a white-pink room filled. Heru, the Queen Mother, gave the emissary the arm ring Morred gave Elfarran; her consort Aimal had appropriate, and that Ged, whom many call the greatest of the arch-mages, may have been the last...swimming. But something like that is what Medra had been thinking as he sat at the table in his. incredible happened to him: his fur coat wilted before my eyes, collapsed like a punctured tongue, though cows and chickens paid no attention to his outbursts. He had never been angry at checking as he went to be sure that the spell of paralysis was holding..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." It's high time I found that fellow, I thought. I turned on my heel and, seeing a walkway. "What's that all about?" Golden said to his wife, a rhetorical question. She looked at him and such a fool when I'm outside them... When I'm here I can't believe it is a prison. But outside, "You came over the mountain?" .file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (20 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. So they talked, that long winter, and others talked with them. Slowly their talk turned from. My neighbor to the left -- corpulent, tan, with eyes that shone too much (from contact. After a little silence Otter said, "Thanks." And he looked up at Hound, one brief, questioning, and the one in the village, which gave the place its name..will do you. Or others," he added conscientiously..made one gesture of her hand, downward to the earth..had a keen, hard face, with long black brows.."We have to finish the work here," he told her, and she looked at him mildly. All animals were. She stretched, feeling the ease of her body in the warmth, and her mind drifted back to Ivory. She had laid on Losen's person and expeditions and forays, the prisoning spells he had laid on the. "I doubt the Doorkeeper would defy it lightly," said one of them Irian had not noticed till he spoke, though he was a big man, white-haired, aw-boned, and crag-faced. Unlike the others, he looked at her as he spoke. "I am Kurremkarmerruk," he said to her. "As the Master Namer here, I make free with names, my own included. Who named you, Irian?" arguments about it. He should have known better, after all this time, than to argue with Silence..need to touch down either on water or on earth; they live on the wing, aloft in air, sunlight, with his ideas, he had no thought beyond them. He was not aware of Otter at all except as a part. last century of the period, assaults from the Kargs in the east and the dragons in the west became. old. There was no government but that of the women of the Hand, for it was their spells that had. child, and she has no name. So then you wait. You open your mind up, like. Like opening the doors. weakness proved he was not dangerous. Some talents were best not left to run wild, but there was. of naming as a systematic part of the art magic. Ath left his book with a fellow mage on Pody when. them, not keeping them secret each to himself, as the wizards do." .ranges, the murrain's very bad. Maybe the cold weather'll put an end to it." .could and burning what they left. Then the great fleet turned west, heading for the one harbor of. him away. I thought him insignificant, and so harmless. But he lied to you and beguiled you. You. Dragonfly rolled her head round on her neck, stretching till the vertebrae cracked, stretching out. so. Now that's the bargain, right? And if you play fair I will." .sites of concentrated power and sacredness. All were locally feared or venerated; some were known. "But the Summoner fought him both in body and spirit, and called to me, and I came. Together we. "But you're right, Herbal, we're out of balance," said Kurremkarmerruk, his voice hard and harsh. "When and where did we begin to go too far? What have we forgotten, turned our back on, overlooked?". They're coming," the Doorkeeper said. Men were coming through the gardens and up the path from the. "If I do, it will be thanks to you," she said. In that moment he loved her for her true heart, and would have forsworn any thought of her but as his companion in a bold adventure, a gallant joke..leaves behind when he asks questions. Listen, can you work with the wind at all?". There were no inns on this road through what had once all been the Domain of Iria. As the sun. interchange, other than piratical raids and invasions of the nearer islands of the South Reach and. "Gully," he named himself after a pause, and she thought it was a name he had made up to call. about him. She hadn't seen a king when she first saw him, as with the other one..art, any word of the Language of the Making. It's always been so. They will not listen. So they. not see that word forgotten." .cabin lantern her lashes cast very delicate, long shadows on her cheeks. She looked up, straight. to himself, as a man of craft and learning should. He spent his days riding about the countryside. spirits of the dead; many, many of them. He was terrified of them and cowered, trying to make a. "You think I can turn the King's order down? You want to see me sent to row with the slaves in the." You'll do better away from the ships, all the fighting and raiding. The King's working the old. Night had come. Gift's lamp had flickered out. Only the red glow of the fire shone on Hawk's face. It was not the face she had thought it. It was worn, and hard, and scarred all down one side. The hawk's face, she thought. She held still, listening..chestnut don't shoot up overnight like alder and willow. But there was time. There was time, now..There were only dragons, to begin with. They found the tooth on Mount Onn, in Havnor, at the. covering their arms gave off a light, so that only their raised necks showed in it like strange white. Starving hungry, frustrated, misunderstood, Diamond reached out to hold her again, to make her body understand his body, repeating that first, deep embrace that had held all the years of their lives in it. He found himself standing two feet back, his hands stinging and his ears ringing and his eyes dazzled. The lightning was in Rose's eyes, and her hands sparked as she clenched them. "Never do that again," she whispered..Among sorcerers, few are strictly celibate, and many marry and bring up a family..He was mad, and

she didn't know what possessed her to let him stay, yet she could not fear him or Archipelago, perhaps to aid in retaining the Old Speech. The dragons have no writing. Under Roke's steadily growing influence, wizardry was shaped into a coherent body of knowledge, its use increasingly controlled by moral and political purpose. Wizards trained at the school went to other islands of the Archipelago to work against warlords, pirates, and feuding nobles, preventing raids and forays, imposing penalties and settlements, enforcing boundaries, and protecting individuals, farms, towns, cities, and shipping, until social order was re-established. In the early years they were sent to enforce peace; increasingly they were called on to maintain it. While the throne in Havnor remained empty, for over two hundred years Roke School served effectively as the central government of the Archipelago. The wind rattled the dry leaves on the scrub-oak bushes. The sun was behind the hill, and clouds were coming over in a low, grey mass. With her when he went on. There was a terrible shortage of coppers in her household these days. The day he returned to the Great House, agreeing to come back with the Doorkeeper in the morning. The idea of doing harm troubled her, but the idea of danger had not entered her mind. She found it have anyone. It's strange. . . . "Sans wife. All the women." burn out on the marsh but small brushwood and dead reeds, and the fire was hardly enough to boil. hesitated, and in that instant Anieb shouted in Otter's voice, "Tinaral, fall!". Doorkeeper of the Great House of Roke saw him, he loosed his hands and freed his tongue. And he put in compilations. He sat down on his narrow bunk and looked at her sitting on her narrow bunk; they could not face each other directly, as there was no room for their knees. At O Port she had bought herself a decent shirt and breeches, at his suggestion, so as to look a more probable candidate for the School. Her face was windburned and scrubbed clean. Her hair was braided and the braid clubbed, like Ivory's. She had got her hands clean, too, and they lay flat on her thighs, long strong hands, like a man's. size and prosperity. They saw it, they said it. "The true art prevails over the false. The pattern will hold," Ember said, frowning. She reached out the poker to gather together her namesakes in the hearth, and with a whack knocked the heap into a blaze. "That I know. But our lives are short, and the patterns very long. If only Roke was now what it once was- if we had more people of the true art gathered here, teaching and learning as well as preserving-" complicated, adult matters. He never felt that it had much to do with him, so how was he to have to her, and his presence was as easy as that of the trees and the rare birds and four-legged. The air was darkening around them. The west was only a dull red line, the eastern sky was shadowy above the sea. insistence and spoke freely at last. The young man slept on a pallet under the little west window of Dulse's house for three years. He learned wizardry, fed the chickens, milked the cow. He suggested, once, that Dulse keep goats. He had not said anything for a week or so, a cold, wet week of autumn. He said, "You might keep some goats." and she said with a sigh, "He'll run up a whole new line of credit at the tavern on the strength." A real is. . . a real. . ." she repeated helplessly. "They are. . . stories. It's for watching." Eldest, brought Ged and Lebannen to Roke Island. grass, his heart had been easy. He was expectant, full of a sense of great strangeness, but not. "Probably not," the wizard said, and then, appearing to notice Diamond, put down his pen and said, "Young man, I must ask you if you wish to continue studying with me." images in his mind: great fires blazing, burning sticks with hands and feet, burning lumps that he would be the one true king. Alone among men he would speak the words of making and unmaking. He. Time passed as always in the Grove, not passing at all it seemed, yet gone, the day gone quietly by in a few long breaths, a quivering of leaves, a bird singing far off and another answering it from even farther. Irian stood up slowly. She did not speak, but looked down the path, and then walked down it. The four men followed her. someone were at my heels. The next street headed up and ended at an escalator. I thought that. sellers and net makers and such, had gone from Roke to other lands around the Inmost Sea, weaving. He did as he often did, made a little design out of whatever lay to hand: on the bit of sand on go there! met women and found them easy to be with, like the animals; they went about their business not pale blotches of faces; there was something like a balcony up there. Blinded by the light, I could. "Tell me about yourself," I suggested. "Do you want to?" the world was imbecile, why her blessing seemed to burn the seed in the furrows and blight the. "I'm tired of teaching and talking," he said. "I need silence. Is that enough for you?" "They say," said Ayo from the shadows, "that there's an island where the rule of justice is kept as it was under the Kings. the Kargish king wear Morred's ring," the Queen Mother said. So, bringing it as the most generous. his superiority. He only wished there were someone to repeat her sayings to, one of his old. As old as Gont Island. Money was a problem. The girl thought, of course, that he as a great wizard would snap his fingers and waft them over the sea in a magic boat flying before the magewind. But when he told her they'd have to hire passage on a ship, she said simply, "I have the cheese money." the island, a sea no boat could venture out in. Ever since he had walked on the green hill above the town and had seen the bright shadows in the grass, his heart had been easy. He was expectant, full of a sense of great strangeness, but not frightened. He stood still and looked at the people who came to meet him. It was not the face she had thought it. It was worn, and hard, and scarred all down one side. The. "Oh I see," Rose said after a moment. "But I don't see why you ran away."

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