

WORDS OF WASHINGTON

"You have a gift for the business," Crow said. "You know where to look. Went straight to that." Now that is interesting," said the old scholar, sitting up straighter. "I told you I was reading about dragons. You know there's been talk of them flying over the Inmost Sea as far east as Gont. That was no doubt Kalessin taking Ged home, multiplied by sailors making a good story better. But a boy swore to me that his whole village had seen dragons flying, this spring, west of Mount Onn. And so I was reading old books, to learn when they ceased to come east of Pendor. And in one I came on your story, or something like it. That men and dragons were all one kind, but they quarrelled. Some went west and some east, and they became two kinds, and forgot they were ever one." islands. He says that when King Lebannen was to be crowned, last autumn, he sent to Gont for the greeting people, I no longer crushed their hands. That was easy. But, unfortunately, the least. A quarrel between brothers over their inheritance divided them. One heir mismanaged his estate through greed, the other through foolishness. One had a daughter who married a merchant and tried to run her estate from the city, the other had a son whose sons quarrelled again, redividing the divided land. By the time the girl called Dragonfly was born, the domain of Iria, though still one of the loveliest regions of hill and field and meadow in all Earthsea, was a battleground of feuds and litigations. Farmlands went to weeds, farmsteads went unroofed, milking sheds stood unused, and shepherds followed their flocks over the mountain to better pastures. The old house that had been the centre of the domain was half in ruins on its hill among the oaks. She got to work scraping down the inner wall of the house, readying it to plaster. But before the sun was in the windows, there was a knock at her open door. Outside was the man she had thought was a gardener, the Master Herbal, looking solid and stolid, like a brown ox, beside the gaunt, grim-faced old Namer. said, and he knocked again, and she put down her mending and went to the door. "Can you be drunk. Hound sniffed, sighed, nodded. "You already know it. You gave it to Flag. She gave it to you. Trust." and mills and business, and Golden told him so. "Singing time is over, son," he said. "You must. conscience. The big galley they were building now would be rowed to war by Losen's slaves and. In her bed, in the dark, she lay and thought: He knew the wizard who named me. Or I said my name. Maybe I said it out loud in my sleep. Or somebody told him. But nobody knows it. Nobody ever knew my name but the wizard, and my mother. And they're dead, they're dead... I said it in my sleep.... students learning how to do tricks of illusion from the sorcerer Hega of O; Master Hand, they. from such scraps and fragments, and though it will be an airy quilt, half made of hearsay and half. So they sailed south in Hopeful, landing first at malodorous Geath, and then in the guise of peddlers working their way from one islet to the next among the mazy channels. Crow had stocked the boat with better wares than most householders of the Isles were used to seeing, and Tern offered them at fair prices, mostly in barter, since there was little money among the islanders. Their popularity ran ahead of them. It was known that they would trade for books, if the books were old and uncanny. But in the Isles all books were old and all uncanny, what there was of them. let a fair wind loose or to capture a contrary one. Maybe it was only for show, but every. jolting between them and the drowsy carter, and the drowsy summer hills and fields slipping. child appeared from under a bush where he had been asleep and trailed after the ewe, of whom he. The boy's drop-jawed stare irritated Hemlock, though he knew it shouldn't. Wizards are used to overweening confidence in the young of their kind. They expect modesty to come later, if at all. "I said Roke," Hemlock said in a tone that said he was unused to having to repeat himself. And then, because this boy, this soft-headed, spoiled, moony boy had endeared himself to Hemlock by his uncomplaining patience, he took pity on him and said, "You should either go to Roke or find a wizard to teach you what you need. Of course you need what I can teach you. You need the names. The art begins and ends in naming. But that's not your gift. You have a poor memory for words. You must train it diligently. However, it's clear that you do have capacities, and that they need cultivation and discipline, which another man can give you better than I can." So does modesty breed modesty, sometimes, even in unlikely places. "If you were to go to Roke, I'd send a letter with you drawing you to the particular attention of the Master Summoner." apart from and often in enmity towards the Archipelagans for two or three millennia. agreement known as *verw nadan*, Vedurnan, the Division. She glanced back at the land then. It was the only time he ever saw her look back. mind? ".not see that word forgotten." "I'm never cold," she said. "It was him." "Never fear," Diamond said, turned on his heel, and strode out. A string of dried sage caught on. You must not weaken, and not think, "Oh, if I just beg them to let me in, they can't refuse me." everywhere. If it had not been cold weather the Marsh would have reeked of rotting flesh. None of. "Then why did you drink?" she asked. dark under the waters all islands touched and were one. So his teacher Ard had said, and so his. Reach, to look for dragons. There was a great longing in his heart to see a dragon. But untimely. I turned away. So even the way of telling time had changed. Hit by the light of the. He asked Birch about the place. "That's Iria," Birch said - "Old Iria, I mean to say. I own the. Then Losen cursed and cried, and his slaves brought him wine, and the mage went out, bowing, and checking as he went to be sure that the spell of paralysis was holding. wise, eh?" he said. "Maybe the Doorkeeper." He looked at her now, not glancing but squarely, his. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (93 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "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." long ridges and the weightless dome of Mount Onn. "Something toxic, you understand. Strong. Alcohol. . . or don't they drink it any more?" as they said taught her teachers, became the mistress of all healing arts and the science of. She agreed with the others to give him a little house down by the harbor and a job helping the boat-builder of Thwil, who had taught herself her trade and welcomed his skill. Veil put no difficulties in his path and always greeted him kindly. But she had said, "What can you tell me that would make me trust you?"

and he had no answer for her. agreeing on the Way-or the Rule, Waris wants us to call it twice the work of building the. The spoken name of a True Rune may be the word it signifies in the Old Speech, or it may be one of the connotations of the rune translated into Hardic. The names of commonly used runes such as Pirr (used to protect from fire, wind, and madness), Sifl ("speed well"), Simn ("work well") are used without ceremony by ordinary people speaking Hardic; but practitioners of magic speak even such well-known, often used names with caution, since they are in fact words in the Old Speech, and may influence events in unintended or unexpected ways..A BOAT-SONG FROM WEST HAVNOR.master's sending him all about the range to do what can be done. It's too late for many." mouth and her long, lean arms, the words spoken awry then, spoken truly now..the weather was settled so mild, they had put up the mast and big square sail. The ship drifted.It was true. He knew her name: Irian. It was like a coal of fire, a burning ember in his mind. His.She was in tears. They hugged, and she stroked his thick, shining hair and apologized for being cruel, and he hugged her again and said she was the kindest mother in the world, and so she went off. But as she left she turned back a moment and said, "Let him have the party, Di. Let yourself have it.".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..TERMINAL PARK -- and a shining green arrow.."Indeed, for the sailors feared him too, and kept him bound that way all the voyage. When the."We have to finish the work here," he told her, and she looked at him mildly. All animals were patient, but the patience of the horse kind was wonderful, being freely given. Dogs were loyal, but there was more of obedience in it. Dogs were hierarchs, dividing the world into lords and commoners. Horses were all lords. They agreed to collude. He remembered walking among the great, plumed feet of cart horses, fearless. The comfort of their breath on his head. A long time ago. He went to the pretty hinny and talked to her, calling her his dear, comforting her so that she would not be lonely.."Hu-hu-hu," said the owl, under her window, and then it said, "Darkrose!" Startled from her misery, she leaped out of bed and opened the shutters..All the thoughts he had not been able to think for days and weeks were racing through his head, a.Permissions Department, Harcourt, Inc., 6277 Sea Harbor Drive, Orlando, Florida 32887-6777..were squatting on their haunches, heads close together, laughing. Something intense or uncanny."Farther." to tell you what Roke is like," he said. "But it would be my pleasure." afoot, then?" "So far as we can see, they are. And no new sickenings." "He's a true sorcerer..life. But this gift, this undeniable gift t the rock hovering, the unblown fife -- Well, it would."Gentlemen, I'm looking for a hotel. Where is there. . .?"."She?".sailing up from Wathort. Maybe the lords there had heard there was a great fleet coming raiding.. "Shall we go?" he said to the cowboy, who set off at once with a wave to Gift and a snort from his little mare. The curer followed. The hinny had a smooth, long-legged walk, and her whiteness shone in the morning light. Gift thought it was like seeing a prince ride oft, like something out of a tale, the mounted figures that walked through bright mist across the vague dun of the winter fields, and faded into the light, and were gone..or another he came at last to Geath in the Ninety Isles..you again I'd do you a favor, if I could. As one finder to the other, see?".and Serriadh the peacemaker, and Elfarran of Solea, and Morred, the White Enchanter, the beloved.pungent, disorderly place thick with the mysteries of women and witchcraft, very different from.eyes. Leaving his cell he had felt the spellbonds loosen and fall away, but there were other.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..strange country under his feet: empty shafts and rooms of dark air in the dark earth, a vertical."Did you think I was one of their eunuchs? That I'd castrate myself with spells so I could be.early summer afternoons..want to know it..All this went rushing through his mind like a flood breaking through a dam, while he stood at the.brought me to her place at this hour.".divided land. By the time the girl called Dragonfly was born, the domain of Iria, though still one.Taking me there?". "Set a price?" he flashed out. Then he remembered who he was not, and spoke humbly. "No. I.Day by day, as they talked in the old stableyard of Iria, where they had fallen into the habit of meeting, she asked him and he told her more, though reluctantly, always partially; he shielded his Masters, she thought, trying to defend the bright image of Roke, until one day he gave in to her insistence and spoke freely at last..lioness persisted. He struck her with a paw. She snorted furiously.."Ah," said Diamond, floored. The Summoner's art is perhaps the most arcane and dangerous of all.must be shown! And we'll show them, you and I. We'll teach them. You must have courage, Dragonfly..hands clapping. Dulse shivered, shuddered all over like the water of the pool..to take the vow and make the spell of celibacy, and live apart if they wanted me to -".around her sandaled feet. She looked back at the Patterner and he still seemed a fragile being..cattle, fattening beef for the populous southern coast, letting the animals stray for miles across.the Master Chanter said I did harm by being here.".file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (47 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].cheeks. His calm, open smile showed small teeth, several of them missing. "Those who have learned.She halted and let him come up to her. "I will, if you call me," she said..it. But one hot afternoon when they came to a glade among a stand of oaks, he said, "I will come.Moon. He had understood the disguised language of the book to mean that in order to purify pure."Nais. How old are you?". "Pure?".and arteries. No harm comes to me. My blood runs silver. I see things unknown to other men. I.your head nor theirs, see, because it would take from their power, they say'. But Ivory, poor.milk. Her eyes grew wide in surprise. Something like a mocking smile touched her lips. She.wrong more often than right, with the wizards warring, using poisons and curses recklessly to gain."Stand!" he said to it in its language, and let go of it. It stood as if he had driven it into a socket..He snorted. I felt drops of his saliva, and before I had time to be terrified he butted me in."First we must settle the matter that divides us," said the Windkey..had met his match, and in their final confrontation, somewhere in the Sea of Ea, both perished.."Third time's the

charm." two-masted ship..were completely dry and clean. Next we ascended a wide escalator. I did not know if this was.went up again. Sometimes now Anieb followed him. He could say her name, though she did not answer..Otter knew that a moment was coming when he might get free of Gelluk: of that he had been sure.liquid. She leaned still closer. I could smell her breath. If she was drunk, it was not on alcohol..though it meant he would have his hands tied behind him and his mouth gagged and a leash buckled.Havnor was better placed for trade and for sending out fleets to protect the Hardic islands.Equilibrium but by holding still. We have gone too far. For the Archmage and Lebannen to go bodily.As far as the mind goes..more to the trees, where she went alone, as far as the mind can go. Medra walked there too, but.next morning Golden told his son again that he must think about being a man..boy. He had a sweet singing voice, a true ear, and a love of music, so that his mother, Tuly,

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