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sweater?" pursuing him across the winter sea, "riding the west wind, the rain wind, the heavy cloud." Each. "But I will come, master!" he said. And then after a pause, "How soon?" And after a longer pause, learn a few hundred to several thousand of these characters as a major part of their few years of. "Free!" said the tall woman, and her voice cracked like a whip. Then she looked at her companions, and after a while she smiled a little. Turning back to Medra, she said, "We're prisoners, and so freedom is a thing we study. You came here through the walls of our prison. Seeking freedom, you say. But you should know that leaving Roke may be even harder than coming to it. Prison within prison, and some of it we have built ourselves." She looked at the others. "What do you say?" she asked them. "If I lie down I won't get up. I want to see the Mountain." the forests of Gont Mountain if he could; but he had been born in Re Albi and knew the roads and. A child ran bawling to its mammy. No one else was about. But Early turned his head, still with something of the eagles quick, stiff turn, staring. Wizard knows wizard, and he knew which house his prey was in. He walked to it and flung the door open. "Put it away," she said, with another laugh, and a flurried motion of her hands. "If you can cure the cattle, the cattlemen will pay you, and you can pay me then. Call that surety, if you like. But put it away, sir! It makes me dizzy to look at it. -Berry," she said, as a nobbly, dried-up man came in the door with a gust of cold wind, "the gentleman will stay with us while he's curing the cattle-speed the work! He's given us surety of payment. So you'll sleep in the chimney corner, and him in the room. This is my brother Berry, sir." the sunshine of morning with his arms in the air. got a girl, a town girl, to come to my room. My cell. My little stone celibate cell. It had a. She considered herself, sitting in the deep silence of the Grove. No bird sang; the breeze

was. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (22 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. mica. With a sharp rending crack the glittering stone split apart. Under it was darkness. Gelluk's attention turned entirely away from him then, fixed on the hillside and the vision he saw grew darker. The girl then folded it -- it was not a plate at all -- into the shape of a pancake and were coming over in a low, grey mass. RAMBRENT. There was a fluttering from white and bluish fluorescent tubes, stairs of crystalline. "They may be friends. Did I say it was an easy life?" A pause. Hemlock looked directly at Diamond. "There was a girl," he said. The daughter of "the wise king Thoreg" rescued Erreth-Akbe from this trance or imprisoning spell and crouched down by the enormous, hunching roots of a willow that leaned out over the water. The. "But I will come, master!" he said. And then after a pause, "How soon?" And after a longer pause, he told the air something in a language the ship's captain did not understand, and made a gesture that darkened the air about him for an instant. out again in haste; they threw torn ribbons on the floor, not telegraph tapes, something else, with. The cowboys were discussing whether or not it was safe to eat the meat of a steer dead of the. The witch said nothing. She knew the girl was right. Once the Master of Iria said he would or nothing, only shining plates in the ceiling and a small depression for the feet, padded with a. the Gate open because he held the Mountain still." They praised his modesty and did not listen to. He did as he often did, made a little design out of whatever lay to hand: on the bit of sand on the riverbank in front of him he set a leaf-stem, a grassblade, and several pebbles. He studied them and rearranged them. "Now I must speak of harm," he said. and peering at the horse's leg, seeing only bright, bloody foam. Ivory said, "but the only city in the world is Havnor." "Close!" Otter cried, dropping to his knees, his hands on the earth, on the raw lips of the crevasse. "Close, Mother! Be healed, be whole!" He pleaded, begged, speaking in the Language of the Making words he did not know until he spoke them. "Mother, be whole!" he said, and the broken ground groaned and moved, drawing together, healing itself. 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. "If Roke was now what it once was, known to be strong, those who fear us would come again to destroy us," said Veil. "My son, there is no reason," she said, suddenly passionate, "there is no reason why you should give up everything you love!" "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." His Herbal came back from the woods and sat down beside him on the bench a while. In the middle of the day he returned to the Great House, agreeing to come back with the Doorkeeper in the morning. They would ask all the other Masters to meet with them in the Grove. "But he won't come," Deyala said, and Azver nodded. His father had named him Banner of War. He had come west, leaving all he knew behind him, and had learned his true name from the trees of the Immanent Grove, and become the Patterner of Roke, All this year the patterns of the shadows and the branches and the roots, all the silent language of his forest, had spoken of destruction, of transgression, of all things changed. Now it was upon them, he knew. It had come with her. without a spell or two. A village hut with a palace floor. Well, it'll be a sight, come winter, to. She asked nothing and he said no more. Presently he got up, and she followed him to the path that always led them, sooner or later, out of the wood to the clearing by the Thwilburn and the Otter's House. When they came there, it was late afternoon. He went down to the stream and drank from it where it left the wood, above all the crossings. She did the same. Then sitting in the cool, long grass of the bank, he began to speak. "No need," he said in that distant way, as if he hardly knew what she was talking about; but then around the spring without falling in a sinkhole among the reeds. In the cold darkness under a few. She shrugged. "No," she said. looked like a man, though she did not feel like one. She and Ivory took each other in their arms. "But she was only a girl like the others, too," Mead said, and hid her face. "A good girl," she whispered. green of the incessantly jumping neons became dingy; the milkiness of the parabolic buttresses and lead the wizard to defeat himself. Men and women of the Hand had joined together on Roke a hundred or more years ago, forming a league of mages. Proud and secure in their powers, they had sought to teach others to band together in secret against

the war makers and slave takers until they could rise openly against them. Women had always been leaders in the league, said Ember, and women, in the guise of salve sellers and net makers and such, had gone from Roke to other lands around the Inmost Sea, weaving a wide, fine net of resistance. Even now there were strands and knots of that net left. Medra had come on one of those traces first in Anieb's village, and had followed them since. But they had not led him here. Since the raid, Roke Island had isolated itself wholly, sealed itself inside powerful spells of protection woven and re woven by the wise women of the island, and had no commerce with any other people. "We can't save them," Ember said. "We couldn't save ourselves." Wise governed for the child Serriadh until he took the throne. His reign was bright but brief. The She said nothing, but breathed very warm in his ear, and he moaned. His hands clenched hers. He. "And if. . ." He brought her into his mind and saw her as he had seen her, there, in that room, and called out to her; and she came. Her eyes were shining and attentive. After him Otter climbed the winding stairs, broad at first but growing tight and narrow, passing vapor chambers with red-hot ovens whose vents led up to refining rooms where the soot from the burnt ore was scraped down by naked slaves and shoveled into ovens to be burnt again. They came to the topmost room. Gelluk said to the single slave crouching at the rim of the shaft, "Show me the King!" Through love, respect, and trust, Dragonfly would never disregard a warning from Rose; but she was unable to see Ivory as perilous. She didn't understand him, but the idea of fearing him, him personally, was not one she could keep in mind. She tried to be respectful, but it was impossible. She thought he was clever and quite handsome, but she didn't think much about him, except for what he could tell her. He knew what she wanted to know and little by little he told it to her, and then it was not really what she had wanted to know, but she wanted to know more. He was patient with her, and she was grateful to him for his patience, knowing he was much quicker than she. Sometimes he smiled at her ignorance, but he never sneered at it or reproved it. Like the witch, he liked to answer a question with a question; but the answers to Rose's questions were always something she'd always known, while the answers to his questions were things she had never imagined and found startling, unwelcome, even painful, altering all her beliefs. visiting the orchard lately. But the birds would have to forage if he stayed away. They must take ethical use and teaching of magic, was established by men and women on Roke Island about a hundred delicate network -- a glass cylinder might have looked thus, its base in the earth, its tip in the. "What if he doesn't want to drink?" The witch sighed, like the ewe, uneasy and constrained. The town at the bay's head, Thwil, shared something of the uncanniness of the Knoll and the Grove, for though the raiders had run through it seeking slaves and plunder and setting fires, the fires had gone out and the narrow streets had sent the marauders astray. Most of the islanders who survived were wise women and their children, who had hidden themselves in the town or in the Immanent Grove. The men now on Roke were those spared children, grown, and a few men now grown old. There was no government but that of the women of the Hand, for it was their spells that had protected Roke so long and protected it far more closely now. Roke seemed probable, and the idea of any league or alliance of wizards appalled him more the more league of mages. Proud and secure in their powers, they had sought to teach others to band. she was not an inexperienced girl, she was a wise woman, a mage, she who walked in the Immanent. boy Otter, except Otter's mother and father and sister, if they were still alive. And surely there. the slaves said, "It is done, your majesty." He held audiences, and old men came and said, "We. That thought stirred him almost unbearably, but when he looked back at her, his thoughts died away. anything at all to turn the Roke-wind if it blew against them. And if it did. Dragonfly would ask. that would have kept a far more experienced wizard captive. There were men of great skill and untruthful realms of Once-upon-a-time are as much a part of human history and thought as the. "Not many come here to the High Marsh," she said. "Peddlers and such. But not in winter." aware of her, concerned for her. She stood up and followed him. him. He drew closer to Irian. He felt the warmth of her body. She stood staring, in that animal. Bitterly he recognized that he was always believing his own lies, caught in nets he had. Glade, Golden was glad to show him fealty. The Lord was born to govern and to keep the peace, as. He let that sink in for a while, and then continued softly, "And to work the spell of semblance on you, to make it so complete and deep that the Masters of Roke will see you as a man and nothing else, to do that, I too must know your name." He paused again. As he talked it seemed to him that everything he said was true, and his voice was moved and gentle as he said, "I could have known it long ago. But I chose not to use those arts. I wanted you to trust me enough to tell me your name yourself." When he added that little questioning "eh?" or "neh?" to the end of what had seemed a statement

it.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (28 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. I had the faint hope that it was only because of my height. to do, to learn? What is she, that you ask this for her?". before, in the spell-locked barracks room at the mines of Samory. "But surely you can't tell?". all the miles to Woodedge. All he said was "She saved me," and the carter asked no questions. Archmage himself said, Rules are made to be broken. Injustice makes the rules, and courage breaks. he knew all too well how Roke was guarded. He knew neither he nor the weatherworker could do. "And perhaps because such arts have not the power they once had," he said. He did not know himself. "What else can you do, Diamond?" he asked. "I saw it." her back. On her face was the same tranquil smile, directed at the empty rows of seats, which. "I gave it up, Darkrose. I had to either do it and nothing else, or not do it. You have to have a. readers, I include the description after the stories. I also redrew the geographical maps for

this.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/D...20%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (9 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. Bilbos lifetime. Don Quixote went riding out to Argentina and met Jorge Luis Borges there. Plus. pattern... The Grove would shelter us." "Are you hurt too?". After a pause Ivory said, "That old weatherworker says all this?". Otter felt as if he were being brought back to vivid life from interminable, dreary, dazed half-crowned hills made the domain a byword, so that people said, "as fat as a cow of Iria", or, "as. But when they came

out into the daylight again his head kept on spinning in the dark, and after a "Come" she said, "before you fall asleep there," and he followed her obediently to Berry's room., "The Hoary Men!" said Irian, staring openly at him. All Daisy's ballads of the Hoary Men who sailed out of the east to lay the land waste and spit innocent babes on their lances, and the story of how Erreth-Akbe lost the Ring of Peace, and the new songs and the King's Tale about how Archmage Sparrowhawk had gone among the Hoary Men and come back with that ring -.with her when he went on. There was a terrible shortage of coppers in her household these days..should come, he could not land on Roke, ".The wizard's eyes narrowed and his smile broadened..They fired every house and field they came to. When they sailed away after a few days they left no..We know a dozen different Arthurs now, all of them true. The Shire changed irrevocably even in..While Morred sought to free his people from these spells and to confront his enemy, Elfarran returned with their year-old child to her native island, Solea, where her own powers would be strongest. But there the Enemy followed her, intent to make her his prisoner and slave. She took refuge at the Springs of Ensa, where, with her knowledge of the Old Powers of the place, she could withstand the Enemy and force him off the island. "The sweet waters of the earth drove back the salt destroyer," says the poem. But as he fled, he captured her brother Salan, who was sailing from Enlad to help her. Making Salan his gebbeth or instrument, the Enemy sent him to Morred with the message that Elfarran had escaped with the baby to an islet in the Jaws of Enlad..Heru, the Queen Mother, gave the emissary the arm ring Morred gave Elfarran; her consort Aimal had given it to her when they married. It had come down through the generations of the descendants of Serriadh, and was their most precious possession. On it was carved a figure written nowhere else, the Bond Rune or Rune of Peace, believed to be a guarantee of peaceful and righteous rule. "Let the Kargish king wear Morred's ring," the Queen Mother said. So, bringing it as the most generous of gifts and in pledge of peaceful intent, Erreth-Akbe went alone to the City of the Kings on Karego-At..no true speech. From now on he could talk only the language of duty: the getting and the spending, ..wandered the day before, and that perhaps I was even looking from the bottom of the dark..the connotations of the rune translated into Hardic. The names of commonly used runes such as Pirr..came up on the muddy bank, and then the man crouched there, shivering..It struck with one huge thunderclap out of sudden utter blackness and wild rain. The ship pitched like a horse rearing and then rolled so hard and far that the mast broke loose from its footing, though the stays held. The sail struck the water, filled, and pulled the galley right over, the great sweeps sliding in their oarlocks, the chained slaves struggling and shouting on their benches, barrels of oil breaking loose and thundering over one another..pulled her over and held her over, the deck vertical to the sea, till a huge storm wave struck and swamped her and she sank. All the shouting and screaming of men's voices was suddenly silent. There was no noise but the roar of the rain on the sea, lessening as the freak wind passed on eastward. Through it one white seabird beat its wings up from the black water and flew, frail and desperate, to the north..Changer, master of the spells that transform matter and bodies..Azver the Patterner stood with his left hand holding his right hand, which her touch had burnt. He..He was gone several days. When he returned, riding in a horse-drawn cart, he had such a look about him that Otter's sister hurried in to tell him, "Hound's won a battle or a fortune! He's riding behind a city horse, in a city cart, like a prince!". "Then. When we quarreled. I said it all wrong. I thought...." A long pause. "I thought I could go on running away. With you. And play music. Make a living. Together. I meant to say that." ..thought they'd be..." She gazed off at the sheep on the hill, her face troubled. "Some of them are..too drunk to talk. Haven't seen the old man for years. He had a daughter, I think." ..not here to fool anybody, but to learn what I need to know." ..storms, the evil weather of those years, drove their ship back to Ingat three times, and Medra..Great House. I know it." ..Queen Heru, called the Eagle, inherited the throne from her father, Denggemal of the House of..which we are sworn to follow." ..The roasting pit took up the center of a huge domed chamber. Hurrying, sticklike figures black against the blaze shoveled and reshoveled ore onto logs kept in a roaring blaze by great bellows, while others brought fresh logs and worked the bellows sleeves. From the apex of the dome a spiral of chambers rose up into the tower through smoke and fumes. In those chambers, Licky had told him, the vapor of the quicksilver was trapped and condensed, reheated and recondensed, till in the topmost vault the pure metal ran down into a stone trough or bowl..only a drop or two a day, he said, from the low-grade ores they were roasting now..the West Reach, Selidor. There, on the outer beach, both exhausted, they faced each other and..over that..worth?" ..He no longer kept a cow. He stood looking into the poultry yard, considering. The fox had been..but there's no more in that than a few drops. It's scarcely worth burning for so little. If you..The significance of that reply, so peculiar coming from the lips of a beautiful young.."I don't know, my dear. I do want you to be safe. I do love to see your father happy and proud of you. But I can't bear to see you unhappy, without pride! I don't know. Maybe you're right. Maybe for a man it's only one thing ever. But I miss hearing you sing." .."I'm not really good on the fife, but I'm good enough. What you didn't teach me, I can fill in with a spell, if I have to. And the band, they're all right. Labby isn't as bad as he looks. Nobody fools with me. We make a pretty good living. Winters, I go stay with Mother and help her out. So I'm all right. What about you, Di?" ..few steps he doubled over and vomited on the ground.."Dirt's easier to keep clean," he said, knowing the struggle already lost. It was true that all

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