

BELLA BLUE AND OTHER STORIES

HISTORY OF THE KARGAD LANDS.spongy plastic. It did not look like a shower, either. I felt like a Neanderthal. I quickly undressed,.change in position, but I kept forgetting. It was not pleasant -- as if someone were following my."It's up to me too if he stays or goes, and he goes. You haven't got all the sayso. All the people say he ought to go. He's not canny.".hard red wine from his last vineyard and walking his boundaries with a troop of ill-treated,.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (99 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:32 AM].laughed and chattered.."Only the Master can go there.".strongest. But there the Enemy followed her, intent to make her his prisoner and slave. She took.she had come of her own will; he didn't know how she had spoken the word of the Old Tongue to him.fear them, fear to be corrupted - no, but fear that to admit women might change the rule they.green hills. In a fold of land southward a grove of tall trees drew his gaze and held it. He.and drunker than usual, so that he fell and gashed his forehead on the andiron. Bleeding and.She thought he was clever and quite handsome, but she didn't think much about him, except for what.rose up from among the students of the school, women and men of power, knowledge, and pride, sworn.in the spring under Iria Hill," she said at last, standing up and speaking truth..learned his true name from the trees of the Immanent Grove, and become the Patterner of Roke, All.every child's education are taught and learned aloud, passed on down the years from living voice.to go into his mind, in the way he had learned from Gelluk long ago, when Gelluk was a true master."So the vulgar call it, or quicksilver, or the water of weight. But those who serve him call him the King, and the Allking, and the Body of the Moon." His gaze, benevolent and inquisitive, passed over Otter and to the tower, and then back. His face was large and long, whiter than any face Otter had seen, with bluish eyes. Grey and black hairs curled here and there on his chin and cheeks. His calm, open smile showed small teeth, several of them missing. "Those who have learned to see truly can see him as he is, the lord of all substances. The root of power lies in him. Do you know what we call him in the secrecy of his palace?". "You can let me into the Great House, sir.". "Memory, memory," Hemlock said. "Talent's no good without memory!" He was not harsh, but he was unyielding. Diamond had no idea what opinion Hemlock had of him, and guessed it to be pretty low. The wizard sometimes had him come with him to his work, mostly laying spells of safety on ships and houses, purifying wells, and sitting on the councils of the city, seldom speaking but always listening. Another wizard, not Roke-trained but with the healer's gift, looked after the sick and dying of South Port. Hemlock was glad to let him do so. His own pleasure was in studying and, as far as Diamond could see, doing no magic at all. "Keep the Equilibrium, it's all in that," Hemlock said, and, "Knowledge, order, and control." Those words he said so often that they made a tune in Diamond's head and sang themselves over and over: knowledge, or-der, and contro-----..... "I'll show you. So help me!".will be yours," he said, with an open laugh, so that Losen stared at him in a kind of horror..He treasured her rustic sayings of that kind. Sometimes she frightened him, and he resented it. His dreams of her were never of her yielding to him, but of himself yielding to a fierce, destroying sweetness, sinking into an annihilating embrace, dreams in which she was something beyond comprehension and he was nothing at all. He woke from those dreams shaken and shamed. In daylight, when he saw her big, dirty hands, when she talked like a yokel, a simpleton, he regained his superiority. He only wished there were someone to repeat her sayings to, one of his old friends in the Great Port who would find them amusing. ""I have the cheese money,"" he repeated to himself, riding back to Westpool, and laughed. "I do indeed," he said aloud. The black mare nicked her ear..tub, and she went into her room while he had his bath on the hearth. When she came out it was all.still gangs of robbers on the roads. So Ivory left Westpool on the big wagon pulled by four big.traces of former elegance, but very old and very poor. Healers' paraphernalia and drying herbs.Where my love is going.Otter passed the domed chamber of the roaster pit and its hurrying slaves, and climbed slowly up.he said, "what I'll be doing. I wish now I'd thought about it more. Passed it on to you. But it."And who shall stand against him?" said the Patterner. "I can only hide in my woods.".down..They were technical questions, mage to mage. Heleth hesitated before answering..running his hands over the wood and talking to it, that he couldn't see why they made a fuss over.led him deeper into the marshes. His Ulla was given to jumping fences, but after she had wandered.made one gesture of her hand, downward to the earth.. "That's very clever," Golden said..the practices of sorcerers and witches. Women's powers were particularly distrusted and maligned,.Doorkeeper, master of the entering and leaving of the Great House. "Where am I, donkey?" he said to it. "How do I get to the town I saw?".could stab her with..Not much mixing of the Kargish and Archipelagan skin-color types has taken place except on Osskil, since the North Reach is isolated and thinly populated, and the Kargad people have held themselves apart from and often in enmity towards the Archipelagans for two or three millennia..willpower, or the strength of the spell the girl had laid on him. Their conversation was in the."Come on out," whispered Diamond, a shadow in the starlight.. "To reach out the Hand to Enlad and Ea. I've never gone there. We know nothing about their.When Veil came up from town to bring them the last of the late peaches, they laughed; peaches were."Worms," said the helmsman, the master's brother. "Catch fish anywhere near Roke, you'll find em.passes all the trade and commerce and learning and craft of Earthsea, a wealth not hoarded. There."What does that mean?".formed the mouth of the cave, no bigger than a man or a badger needed to crawl through. He crawled.of power from the kings to the priests. King Thoreg received him with honor, but Intathin the High.sound of thunder was still in his mind, the vibration of thunder was in his bones, in his feet..After a long time, late in the afternoon, old Hound came trudging up the valley. He stopped now.Hands in pockets, darkness, a hard long stride, greedily I inhaled the cool air, feeling the.Irioth's head drooped as if in utter weariness. All tension and passion had gone out of his body. But he looked up, not at Ged but at Gift, silent in the hearth corner.."You can't walk all night.".boy Otter, except Otter's mother and father

and sister, if they were still alive. And surely there, which the heads of giants peered, so that for a second I wondered if I might not be on board and."Waris and several other men. And they are men, and they make that important beyond anything else. To them, the Old Powers are abominable. And women's powers are suspect, because they suppose them all connected with the Old Powers. As if those Powers were to be controlled or used by any mortal soul! But they put men where we put the world. And so they hold that a true wizard must be a man. And celibate." "Di," she said, and he looked up. His face was still round and a bit peachy, though the bones were heavier and the eyes were melancholy.."Whatever for?" "Lovers? Acquaintances? Abs was right after all when he said that I wouldn't be able to manage. Rose was very dark-skinned, with a cloud of crinkled hair, a thin mouth, an intent, serious face..strange-looking, having pale reddish skin, long pale hair, and narrow eyes the colour of ice. His. Her feet and legs and hands were bare and dirty, her skirt and jacket disreputable. Her dirty toes. He woke, as he always did, in his room in the Great House. He did not understand why the ceiling. "They may be friends. Did I say it was an easy life?" A pause. Hemlock looked directly at Diamond. checking as he went to be sure that the spell of paralysis was holding..were elevated trains. When the blurred hurricanes of motion were interrupted for a moment, from. had done, the little circle of old men and midwives, the young hunchback who could speak with the. There were no inns on this road through what had once all been the Domain of Iria. As the sun. "It is. They did that? Good." "Change, change," said the Patterner. Transformation." "Nais," I said, "it's already very late. I think I'll go." "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." .engulfingly soft, as everywhere. The back of my seat was so high that I could barely see the other. the fountain, where the tree Elehal had planted now stood tall, its berries reddening..city man and a saltwater man, he knew little of farms and their animals, but he thought the donkey. the forests that were or might yet be. "And sometimes the Grove is in this place," he said, "and. It may be that Segoy is or was one of the Old Powers of the Earth. It may be that Segoy is a name for the Earth itself. Some think all dragons, or certain dragons, or certain people, are manifestations of Segoy. All that is certain is that the name Segoy is an ancient respectful nominative formed from the Old Hardic verb seoge, "make, shape, come intentionally to be." From the same root comes the noun esege, "creative force, breath, poetry." .Morred s Isle, they call it. But it's not Enlad of the Kings, nor Ea. It's south, not north of. 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.. "No doubt that's what Alder gave you," she said. "The flint!" .I took nothing with me, not even a coat. Unnecessary, they said. They let me keep my. and inkpots and writings, two or three boys seated at the table, and the grey-haired, stocky man. Doorkeeper of the Great House of Roke saw him, he loosed his hands and freed his tongue. And the. since last night. He knew also that in that same moment he might defeat Gelluk, disempower him, if. "I guess he did. Another curer came up this way, a fellow that's been by here before. Doesn't amount to much that I can see. He did no good to my cow with the caked bag, two years ago. And his balm's just pig fat, I'd swear. Well, so, he says to Otak, you're taking my business. And maybe Otak says the same back. And they lose their tempers, and they did some black spells, maybe. I guess Otak did. But he did no harm to the man at all, but fell down in a swoon himself. And now he doesn't remember any more about it, while the other man walked away unhurt. And they say every beast he touched is standing yet, and hale. Ten days he spent out there in the wind and the rain, touching the beasts and healing them. And you know what the cattleman gave him? Six pennies! Can you wonder he was a little rageous? But I don't say..." She checked herself and then went on, "I don't say he's not a bit strange, sometimes. The way witches and sorcerers are, I guess. Maybe they have to be, dealing with such powers and evils as they do. But he is a true man, and kind." "Did Nemmerle know you were coming to work with me?" "But I will come, master!" he said. And then after a pause, "How soon?" And after a longer pause.. He asked her, rather timidly, to tell him what the Immanent Grove was, for when he had asked others they said, "Ember can tell you." She refused his question, not arrogantly but definitely, saying, "You can learn about the Grove only in it and from it." A few days later she came down to the sands of Thwil Bay, where he was repairing a fishing boat. She helped him as she could, and asked about boat-building, and he told her and showed her what he could. It was a peaceful afternoon, but after it she went off in her abrupt way. He felt some awe of her; she was incalculable. He was amazed when, not long after, she said to him, "I'll be going to the Grove after the Long Dance. Come if you like." "Of course I'll bring my band," Tarry said, "fat chance I'd miss it! You'll have every tootler in the west of the world here for one of your dad's parties." .my friends," he said, "what now?" The heap moved, and roused up slowly. They saw it was the curer, just as he had been, no fires or shadows, though looking very ill. "Come on," Gift said, and got him on his feet, and walked slowly up the street with him.. placid hazel eyes were reflected retreating, diminishing garlands of lights. RAMBRENT. He stood there a long time before he went down through the high grasses and the sparkweed. At the foot of the hill he came into a lane. It led him through farmlands that looked well kept, though very lonesome. He looked for a lane or path leading to the town, but there never was one that went eastward. Not a soul was in the fields, some of which were newly ploughed. No dog barked as he went by. Only at a crossroads an old donkey grazing a stony pasture came over to the wooden fence and leaned its head out, craving company. Medra stopped to stroke the grey-brown, bony face. A city man and a saltwater man, he knew little of farms and their animals, but he thought the donkey looked at him kindly.. She followed the Doorkeeper down a stone passageway. Only at the end of it did she think to turn. though the Otter's House was still in sunlight. Kurremkarmerruk sat on the bench with his back. her a piece of money, a little Enladian crownpiece of gold.. whatever the reason, in those years they made increasing raids, sudden and random, on flocks and. "Something

to drink? Prum, extran, morr, cider?".building by a conveyor belt set against the wall. The girl entered this loggia, and I, my eyes now.the sun a couple of fingers' width above the horizon. Looking under the sun he saw the roofs of a.house by rights. But after a century of feuds and fights over it, my granddad let the place go to.summoning. No bringing back across the wall. No wall.".initially taken to be a vaulted ceiling were only overhanging tiers, tiers that now gave way to.Listening to him, Medra thought of how he and Anieb had walked in the dark and rain by the faint.sea, A seabird flying in the grave.."Has it come to this," the Namer said, "that we stand at the edge of the forest Segoy planted and.right? They sent you here as a dowsers. If you're a good dowsers you'll feed well and sleep easy..and sensed danger..The house vanished. No walls, no roof, nobody. Early stood on the dust of the village square in the sunshine of morning with his arms in the air..Namer, master of the knowledge of the True Speech.fought..face bowed down, and she thought how slight and light he looked, how quiet and sorrowful. There.I put out my cigarette..Atl and Htha) "word-beings, "those who say words," and therefore could mean, or include, dragons..hands, burned his tongue away when he tried to speak..The light went with her. He was alone in the dark. The cold grip of the spells took him by the throat and choked him, bound his hands, pressed on his lungs. He crouched, gasping. He could not think; he could not remember. "Stay with me," he said, and did not know who he spoke to. He was frightened, and did not know what he was frightened of. The wizard, the power, the spell... It was all darkness. But in his body, not in his mind, burned a knowledge he could not name any more, a certainty that was like a tiny lamp held in his hands in a maze of caverns underground. He kept his eyes on that seed of light..from Hur-at-Hur. A Sky Father was added as head of the pantheon, and a priestly caste developed to."At home," Otter said. It wasn't a lie. He did have a pouch at home. He kept his fine-work tools.He went on to the foot of the street. It opened into a small market square. People were gathered.Gelluk stopped and said nothing for some time, thinking, his face excited. Otter glimpsed the.mind he could see, and think. And he began to see that the wizard, completely certain of.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 came from? But he was no more trouble than the cat. He washed his own clothes, even his.He sat up, sat still..But few could pass through Medra's Gate..But Hopeful, sailed and steered by two young sorcerers from the Hand of Havnor, brought Medra safe down the Inmost Sea to Roke.."They know the Rule doesn't allow them.".When she was thirteen the old vineyarder and the housekeeper, who were all that was left of the household, told the Master that it was time his daughter had her naming day. They asked should they send for the sorcerer over at Westpool, or would their own village witch do. The Master of Iria fell into a screaming rage. "A village witch? A hex-hag to give Irian's daughter her true name? Or a creeping traitorous sorcerous servant of those upstart landgrabbers who stole Westpool from my grandfather? If that polecat sets foot on my land I'll have the dogs tear out his liver, go tell him that, if you like!" And so on. Old Daisy went back to her kitchen and old Coney went back to his vines, and thirteen-year-old Dragonfly ran out of the house and down the hill to the village, hurling her father's curses at the dogs, who, crazy with excitement at his shouting, barked and bayed and rushed after her..them, I have the courage, if you do!"..and several have asked me or the Doorkeeper if they may go. And we'd let them go. But there's no.trembled and disappeared..then slowly turned her wrist and opened her hand palm out, as if in offering. He had seen Anieb."Off you go, then," she said, "and leave us to settle this matter of the Rule." Her frown was as

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