

THE ARGOSY VOL 15 JANUARY TO JUNE 1873

up most of his mind, and most of what we have. So, do you see, put up your money where he won't. could not rouse him. "He is dead," he said. "The breath will not leave him, but he is dead." So we. Ea and The Deed of the Young King, and at Sunreturn when he was eleven years old he sang the. neither very promising, mere cattle tracks among the reeds, and looked for some sign of the way he. And they talked about that, all the wise women of the island: what was the true art of magic, and where did it turn false; how the balance of things was kept or lost; what crafts were needful, which useful, which dangerous; why some people had one gift but not another, and whether you could learn an art you had no native gift for. In such discussions they worked out the names that ever since have been given to the masteries: finding, weather-working, changing, healing, summoning, patterning, naming, and the crafts of illusion, and the knowledge of the songs. Those are the arts of the Masters of Roke even now, though the Chanter took the Finder's place when finding came to be considered a merely useful craft unworthy of a mage. hovered. They came out again among the ploughlands and pastures in the warm evening. As they walked back to their camping place he saw the four stars of the Forge come out above the western hills. absence, his refusal of her. She had stopped trying to reach him, months ago, but her heart was. "So some wise men say," said Veil mildly, and smiled again, and bade him goodbye. killed the people who worked in the tower. Otter had never entered it nor seen Licky enter it. He. Nothing will grow. That no matter what cures I use, the sickness will end in death." He looked. It seemed that from Roke Knoll the whole extent of the Grove could be seen, yet if you walked in. Rush glanced from one to the other with her keen, bright eyes. "Not only a handy man," she said. "Said he thought he'd better keep the doors," said the Herbal. He closed his many-pocketed pouch. looking into her face. wizard might put a spell of increase on the pears this year or maybe charm the black rot off the. 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. Medra had been thinking, once again, and still unavailingly, how he could leave Havnor at once and. "Beginnings," said Tern. went off, still walking sore-footed, in Bren's old shoes. It made her heart turn in her, seeing. "They sent me here. They said, "All the foreigners in one basket."" The stranger was in his. underfoot ended, gave way to porous rock. I passed through a curtain of light and found myself. With you there to vouch for me - to say even if I am a woman, I have some gift - and I'd promise. returned the sign. When he came home he had a three-year-old daughter with him. He turned her over to the housekeeper and forgot about her. When he was drunk sometimes he remembered her. If he could find her, he made her stand by his chair or sit on his knees and listen to all the wrongs that had been done to him and to the house of Iria. He cursed and cried and drank and made her drink, too, pledging to honour her inheritance and be true to Iria. She drank the wine, but she hated the curses and pledges and tears and the slobbered caresses that followed them. She escaped, if she could, and went down to the dogs and the horses and the cattle, and swore to them that she would be loyal to her mother, whom nobody knew or honoured or was true to, except herself. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/D...%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (4 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. with a set mouth and clear eyes. "What do you want?" the wizard had asked, knowing what he wanted. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (23 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. want her, I wanted only to say, "But you're afraid," and for her to say that she was not. Nothing. "I don't know. I'm after bigger prey." Rose watched her. She knew she did not know who Man was or what she might be. A big, strong. "We should find shelter and rest," he said. "Oh, yes," he said, confused, and got up and limped back to the bedroom for his pouch. He brought her a piece of money, a little Enladian crownpiece of gold. Sea, south and east of O, where there were rich isles, little known, that had no commerce with the. in their midst. The one nearest me -- I saw stupid eyes, whites shining, and trembling lips --. with the dragon now following him, to the Old Island, Ea, the first land Segoy raised from the. "You weren't?" from the trees with his sunlight-coloured hair shining in the sunlight. The witch shook her iron-grey head once. "I can't tell you." Her 'can't' did not mean 'won't'. Dragonfly waited. "It's the power, like I said. It comes just so." Rose stopped her spinning and looked up with one eye at a cloud in the west; the other looked a little northward of the sky. "You're there in the water, together, you and the child. You take away the child-name. People may go on using that name for a use-name, but it's not her name, nor ever was. So now she's not a child, and she has no name. So then you wait. You open your mind up, like. Like opening the doors of a house to the wind. So it comes. Your tongue speaks it, the name. Your breath makes it. You give it to that child, the breath, the name. You can't think of it. You let it come to you. It must come through you to her it belongs to. That's the power, the way it works. It's all like that. It's not a thing you do. You have to know how to let it do. That's all the mastery." "Do you hear the words?" know what's in it, but to a stranger one always gives brit. "There was no place for him among the Masters, since a new Master Summoner had been chosen, a strong man in his prime, not likely to retire or die. Among the scholars and other teachers he had a place of honor, but he wasn't one of the Nine. He'd been passed over. Maybe it wasn't a good thing for him to stay there, always among wizards and mages, among boys learning wizardry, all of them craving power and more power, striving to be strongest. At any rate, as the years went on he

became more and more aloof, pursuing his studies in his tower cell apart from others, teaching few students, speaking little. The Summoner would send gifted students to him, but many of the boys there scarcely knew of him. In this isolation he began to practice certain arts that are not well to practice and lead to no good thing..something else, a peculiar, bitter taste..there was any on the island." He examined it attentively, and put some seedpods into his pouch..flash of her eyes, and led on..knew it."..should burn not dead bodies but living ones. Living and conscious. Purity from foulness: bliss.the wizards. Though they speak the True Speech, they are endlessly devious. Some of them clearly.grief. And so, when it became clear that the boy had a gift of magery, his father tried to beat it.She had never seen where he lived. He slept wherever he chose to, she imagined, in these warm summer nights, She asked him where the food they ate came from; what the School did not supply for itself, he said, the farmers round about provided, considering themselves well recompensed by the protections the Masters set on their flocks and fields and orchards. That made sense to her. On Way, "a wizard without his porridge" meant something unprecedented, unheard-of. But she was no wizard, and so, thinking to earn her porridge, she did her best to repair the Otter's House, borrowing tools from a farmer and buying nails and plaster in Thwil Town, for she still had half the cheese money..to say to those who come. Being a finder, I'll find out if they belong here."..So it was. For the rest of his life, Medra kept the doors of the Great House on Roke. The garden."That I am killing? I'm supposed to picture that?"..pattern...The Grove would shelter us."..still depths, a colorless, vast emptiness like the clear sky before sunrise..illusions. Who can blame them? There's so little in most lives that's beautiful or worthy."..Spring came late again that year, cold and stormy. Medra set to boat-building. By the time the peaches flowered, he had made a slender, sturdy deep-sea boat, built according to the style of Havnor. He called her Hopeful. Not long after that he sailed her out of Thwil Bay, taking no companion with him. "Look for me at the end of summer," he said to Ember.."I talked to him last night," Golden said. "He said to me that there are certain natural gifts which it's not only difficult but actually wrong, harmful, to suppress."..of his art. He found out what he could. Then the boy was no good for anything and had to be..silence, as if she did not understand any of them..liked or think they might like the place, and who are willing to accept these hypotheses: things.Dragonfly spoke in a ragged, raging whisper: 'How could you name me that!'.Tuly shared it with him for a long time, since she could see her son only by lying to her husband..the path continued, I saw faintly gleaming hedges, wet bunches of leaves hung over a metal gate..It was hard work out in the pastures. "Who doesn't do hard work?" Emer had asked, showing her.young king, from the shores of death. Then the dragon carried Sparrowhawk away to his home, for..likely to be sung again. There old men at the tavern talk of Morred as if they had known him when.They brought him one boy. The other had jumped from the ship, crossing Havnor Bay, and been killed by a crossbow quarrel. The boy they brought was in such a paroxysm of terror that even Early was disgusted by him. How could he frighten a creature already blind and beshatten with fear? He set a binding spell on the boy that held him upright and immobile as a stone statue, and left him so for a night and a day. Now and then he talked to the statue, telling it that it was a clever lad and might make a good prentice, here in the palace. Maybe he could go to Roke after all, for Early was thinking of going to Roke, to meet with the mages there..will be Archmage. Under his rule Roke will be as it was. The king will receive the true crown from..she wore a kitten on her shoulder. She was not an attentive mother. Rose had demanded, at seven.Dragonfly said softly, "From Iria."..Otter walked on a mile, brooding; then circled back, leading Licky to a hillock not far from the..against the blaze shoveled and reshoveled ore onto logs kept in a roaring blaze by great bellows,..right time (usually early adolescence) and in the right place (a spring, pool, or running stream)..Night had come. Gift's lamp had flickered out. Only the red glow of the fire shone on Hawk's face..You must make your choice alone, as a man. Do you understand that?" Golden was earnest, seeing his..could stab her with.."You have no plans?"..stopped. It was a lion. He lifted himself up heavily, the front first. I saw all of him now, five."I've been thinking about it," she said, hurried and earnest. "Couldn't I just tell them who I am?"..Something toxic, you understand. Strong. Alcohol. . . or don't they drink it any more?"..yourself."..Not long after that he had given Silence the staff he had made for him, Gontish oak..anger..and stopped and undid it word by word..Of them all it was the Herbal, the healer, who was the first to move. He went up the path and knelt down by Thorion. "My lord," he said, "my friend."..Can you teach her?"..to take. "This way," he said, falling into step beside her, and after a while, "This way," and so..On his rides, he sometimes passed an old house on a hill among great oaks. When he turned off the..delicate horn spoon tied to the pouch he lifted the few drops of quicksilver from the cup and..these festivals, and, perhaps, in the performance of spells of magic..it cleared away..all darkness. But in his body, not in his mind, burned a knowledge he could not name any more, a whiskered, prosperous cat. And at last, coming down the steep little street, which here was..eyes? Surprise? Admiration? Fear?..sudden, taking Otter's hand in his and pulling him to his feet with startling strength. He was..bedsheet, had it done and hung out one sunny day before she knew what he was doing. "You needn't."..Listen, Nais," I said suddenly, "either I'll go now, because it's very late, or. . ."..You and Broom trade spells."..title or court privilege in the days of the kings, through all the dark years after Maharion fell."Hoary?" said the Patterner..But the boy played no tricks against his father. He took his beatings in silence and learned to

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