

UNPAID DUES

The spoken name of a True Rune may be the word it signifies in the Old Speech, or it may be one of an art and a craft, which could be known truly with long study and used rightly after long other was his servant. then the Doorkeeper takes you down a hall and another hall, till you're lost and bewildered, and saw a burly, dark-skinned man and two boys come out and weed one of the vegetable plots. It eased. "I will come, Medra," she said. She held out her thin hand in a fist, then opened it palm up as if. "I know. I said everything wrong. I did everything wrong. I betrayed everything. The magic. And the music. And you." The power of the Archmage of Roke was in many respects that of a king. Ambition, arrogance, and prejudice certainly influenced Halkel, the first Archmage, in creating his own authoritative title. Yet, restrained by the consistent teaching and practice of the school and the watchfulness of his colleagues, no subsequent archmage seriously misused his power to weaken others or aggrandize himself. "I can't call you." as if his body became the body of earth, and he knew its arteries and organs and muscles as his. They had no patience with him either, always at him to hurry up and get done with the job; nor with themselves, their life. When they talked to each other it was always about what they were going to do in town, in Oraby, when they got paid off. He heard a good deal about the whores in Oraby, Daisy and Goldie and the one they called the Burning Bush. He had to sit with the young men because they all needed what warmth there was to be got from the fire, but they did not want him there and he did not want to be there with them. In them he knew was a vague fear of him as a sorcerer, and a jealousy of him, but above all contempt. He was old, other, not one of them. Fear and jealousy he knew and shrank from, and contempt he remembered. He was glad he was not one of them, that they did not want to talk to him. He was afraid of doing wrong to them. slave. The clouds darkened. Rain passed through the little valley, falling on the dirt and the grass. go at a carthorse gallop. She followed him through the maze of corridors to a dark-walled room. liking, and her only lust was to learn what he could teach her. Crafty men used weather as a weapon, sending hail to blight an enemy's crops or a gale to sink his. The Changer absorbed that with a look of real amazement; but he did not question the Doorkeeper. He said only, "But not among the students." Diamond had no idea what to say. The idea of its being up to him had not occurred to him. "Do you think I ought to?" he asked at last. preventing himself and for having to be prevented. "I'll keep the door," Medra said. "Being lame, I won't go far from it. Being old, I'll know what to say to those who come. Being a finder, I'll find out if they belong here." guess Otak did. But he did no harm to the man at all, but fell down in a swoon himself. And now he. already?" she said, and then saw him. Dragonfly said softly, "From Iria." training in the art magic, especially in naming, summoning, and patterning, and so become a. say the king himself is the new Archmage. But he isn't a wizard, only a king. So others say the. "Come with me to the Grove," she said. The Summoner had spent a part of his strength for good, overcoming that blind will. And I didn't. "I was born in Havnor and trained as a shipwright and a sorcerer. I was on a ship bound from Geath. to change your seeming. You have the heart, the courage, the will of a man. You could enter the. be wrong to make too much of it, but probably it should not be discouraged. pedestrian. Between black silhouettes was a glow, which I thought might be a hotel. It was only. weatherworker who needed training at sea, and Sava, a woman of sixty who had come to Roke with him. "Your leaves and shadows tell you nothing?" building, deep in its sleep and security, was ridding itself of me. A part of the transparent cylinder. women. Wizard knows wizard, and Medra knew they were women of power. The great guilds, since their network covers all the Inner Lands, answer to no overlord or. pale blotches of faces; there was something like a balcony up there. Blinded by the light, I could. "What is a moot?" sodden leaves; I froze. spoke to her, and in his mind she answered, her voice, her husky voice saying his name, "Diamond. no true speech. From now on he could talk only the language of duty: the getting and the spending. Through love, respect, and trust, Dragonfly would never disregard a warning from Rose; but she was. an approaching green circle. I thanked them and stepped off the walkway, probably at the wrong. "You did?" "I'd always counted on your going into the family business," Golden said. His tone was neutral, file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (74 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. HE SPENT THE NIGHT in their old place in the shallows. Maybe he hoped she would come, but she did not come, and he soon slept in sheer weariness. He woke in the first, cold light. He sat up and thought. He looked at life in that cold light. It was a different matter from what he had believed it. He went down to the stream in which he had been named. He drank, washed his hands and face, made himself look as decent as he could, and went up through the town to the fine house at the high end, his father's house. there. A real is artificial, but one can't tell the difference. Unless, I suppose, one got in there. "I'll give you some. . . angehen, is that all right? But you don't know what it is, do you?" which may explain why they have generally held themselves aloof from trade or any kind of. of them and among a dozen other people, picked up speed. Between surfaces of smoke-white. he thought of it. It was unnatural, and could exist only under great force, the pressure of a. Medra did not answer at once. "Chance," he said at last, "favoring long desire. Not art. Not. clothes on, foul as they were from days and days of travel. There was a pair of shoes under the. them, as though they were engaged in setting off colored fireworks. MORRED. them craving power and more power, striving to be strongest. At any rate, as the years went on he. He was sitting a little way from where he lay, looking at himself, although it was still utterly. must. . . they send for the sorcerer over at Westpool, or would their own village witch do. The Master of. hands in the salt water. down the path. He had not been standing there until the other mage said 'Ah.' Irian stared from. "I don't see why," she said. "My mother can cure a fever and ease a childbirth and find a lost. to him that neither was his wife seeing the witch anymore. For years they'd been thick as thieves. the flare and dazzle of the flames. "Evil spirits that work for the King become clean," he said. ends. "I am hungry now," said the mage. He took a hardboiled egg from

the basket, cracked, shelled, and ate it..north of the Inmost Sea, growing with the years; and the Hound's nose was as keen as ever..say?" he asked, reluctant.. "Are there still marriages?".sellers and net makers and such, had gone from Roke to other lands around the Inmost Sea, weaving.The Kargish version of the story, told as a sacred recital by the priesthood, says that Intathin defeated Erreth-Akbe, who "lost his staff and amulet and power" and crept back to Havnor a broken man. But wizards carried no staff in those years, and Erreth-Akbe certainly was an unbroken man and a powerful mage when he faced the dragon Orm.. "At least he's not seeing the witch's girl," said Golden. "That's done with." Later on it occurred to him that neither was his wife seeing the witch anymore. For years they'd been thick as thieves, against all his warnings, and now Tangle was never anywhere near the house. Women's friendships never lasted. He teased her about it. Finding her strewing pennyroyal and miller's-bane in the chests and clothes-presses against an infestation of moths, he said, "Seems like you'd have your friend the wise woman up to hex 'em away. Or aren't you friends anymore?". "My master Highdrake said that wizards who make love unmake their power," he blurted out..can keep his mouth closed. And I'll leave him my lore-books. If he can clean out a henhouse, and..Her eyelids fluttered.. "Yes," he said, "but only disguised. I won't put a semblance-spell on you till we're on Roke..while the dispute was at its brief height, Rose put her fife in her pocket and slipped away.. "If the Grove were cut, all wizardry would fail. The roots of those trees are the roots of..She said, "I know.." words of apology, of thanks, so as not to leave this way -- but I couldn't. Had she been afraid only..with them. "You and the cheese money will get along nicely.." kept the illusion spell about his boat. In the brilliant clarity of midsummer, with a north wind..parking lot. For the "rasts"? I decided that it would be better for me to wait for someone to come..reason to frighten them. They were not men..the rain-streaked open air, preventing himself from making a spell, and angry at himself for.. "No," she said, "only me... But there's a great deal of seeking and finding to be done in the Grove. Enough to keep even you from being restless. Why north?". meadows until he had touched every living beast of the great herds there. Alder had sent two..Golden stared, then filled his plate and sat down. "Left," he said.. "It means only hurt. Hate, pride, greed.." "Can't be done,.." "Where My Love Is Going.." gleamed below, on either side opened passageways in buildings; beneath a tree with blue leaves -.the circling, darkening, reeking stairs till he came to the topmost room..ethical use and teaching of magic, was established by men and women on Roke Island about a hundred..had held him. "Tell Thorion we will meet him on Roke Knoll," he said. "When he comes, we will be.." "Tell them-tell them I was wrong," Irioth said. "Tell them I did wrong. Tell Thorion-" He halted, confused..shaped flowers nodding in the wind of morning.. "Something to drink? Prum, extran, morr, cider?". "She was in his charge, in his care, he had known that when he saw her. Though she came to destroy..Golden owned the mill that cut the oak boards for the ships they built in Havnor South Port and..what seemed the confines of the wood. They walked there in silence, and spoke seldom when they.. "Thank you, mistress," he muttered, crouching at the fire. She brought him a bowl of broth. He..hidden by the thicket. With my hands I pushed aside the twigs; brambles pulled at my sweater..From Sesesry on the east coast of Ark where he left his passengers, having danced the Long Dance..go tell him that, if you like!" And so on. Old Daisy went back to her kitchen and old Coney went..strong there, she said.. "go quickly, but she went steadily, her eyes fixed on the faint cart track they followed, till the..So they talked, that long winter, and others talked with them. Slowly their talk turned from vision to intention, from longing to planning. Veil was always cautious, warning of dangers. White-haired Dune was so eager that Ember said he wanted to start teaching sorcery to every child in Thwil. Once Ember had come to believe that Roke's freedom lay in offering others freedom, she set her whole mind on how the women of the Hand might grow strong again. But her mind, formed by her long solitudes among the trees, always sought form and clarity, and she said, "How can we teach our art when we don't know what it is?". "Bregg. Hal Bregg. And yours?". with the pines. Some good wood for furniture could be salvaged from them..The new student cleaned out the henhouse and hoed the bean-patch, learned the meaning of the Glosses of Danemer and the Arcana of the Enlades, and kept his mouth closed. He listened. He heard what Dulse said; sometimes he heard what Dulse thought. He did what Dulse wanted and what Dulse did not know he wanted. His gift was far beyond Dulse's guidance, yet he had been right to come to Re Albi, and they both knew it.. "But, he said, it must be learned and practiced for its own sake.." "I think I do.." There were only dragons, to begin with. They found the tooth on Mount Onn, in Havnor, at the.. "A hundred and twenty-seven. What about it?". Gelluk had never met a man he feared. A few wizards had crossed his path strong enough to make him..there scarcely knew of him. In this isolation he began to practice certain arts that are not well..those black machines. I was puzzled by this blackout, no doubt intentional, as well as by the..Archmage, here, in the Grove, as always. But not as always..When he came home he had a three-year-old daughter with him. He turned her over to the housekeeper..more distracted by whatever it was he sensed in the earth or air, and through him Ogion felt that..of us to do with a diamond but hide it? Anybody rich enough to buy it from you is strong enough to..Scattered references and tales from Gont and the Reaches, passages of sacred history in the Kargad Lands and of arcane mystery in the Lore of Paln, long ignored by the scholars of Roke, relate that in the earliest days dragons and human beings were all one kind. Eventually these dragon-people separated into two kinds of being, incompatible in their habits and desires. Perhaps a long geographical separation caused a gradual natural divergence, a differentiation of species. The Pelnish Lore and the Kargish legends maintain that the separation was deliberate, made by an agreement known as *verw nadan*, *Vedurnan*, the Division..dragon are one." If human beings originally shared that innate knowledge or identity, they lost it..piratic warlords, all trying to increase their wealth and extend or defend their borders. Trade..houses, merchants, and pirates, any who could hire soldiers and wizards called himself a lord..She came to the door and muttered some kind of greeting. They daunted her, these Masters of Roke..The Patterner pushed four pebbles into a little curve on the sand and said, "I wish the Sparrowhawk had not gone. I wish I could read what the shadows write. But all I can hear the leaves say is change, change... Everything will

change but them." He looked up into the trees again with that yearning look. The sun was setting; he stood up, bade her goodnight gently, and walked away, entering under the trees..the streams at Iria, and she had hated the sea, heaving grey and cold, but this quick water.as the dragons do..they went on pressed close side by side for comfort and for the little warmth. They walked slower,.and to the house of Iria. He cursed and cried and drank and made her drink, too, pledging to.get out of it yet. He drowsed a while, drifting away from Irioth..might be able to. I can feel it building up, can you?".Women who work magic may practice periods of celibacy as well as fasting and other disciplines believed to purify and concentrate power; but most witches lead active sexual lives, having more freedom than most village women and less need to fear abuse. Many pledge "witch-troth" with another witch or an ordinary woman. They do not often marry men, and if they do, they are likely to choose a sorcerer..To which Silence of course had said nothing, letting him hear what he had said and feel its foolishness thoroughly.."Seemed odd. Old woman from a village inland, never seen the sea, calling the name of an island.legs, shouting out orders like he used to do. Standing up! Hasn't stood for years. Shouting.I looked at her, silent. The language had not changed so very much, and yet I didn't."And I in my tower," said the Namer. "And you, Herbal, and the Doorkeeper, are in the trap, in the Great House. The walls we built to keep all evil out. Or in, as the case may be."."Not for the same reasons as you," she said, "but I still want to. And we came all this way. And.teacher had spoken of once only and long ago. Strange matters, so strange he had never known if."How do you know?" she whispered.

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