

IC MONTHLY VOLUME 03 NO 18 APRIL 1859 A MAGAZINE OF LITERATURE ART AND

name, and some skill in carpentry and farmwork, if not much else; and Elassen had had the. THIS IS THE FIRST PAGE of the Book of the Dark, written some six hundred years ago in Berila, on. then the wife and daughters were entirely won over. And Birch thought the young man was worth his. in something that shone like phosphorized metal. The fabric clung to her: she was as if naked. .not recall how or when I entered a wide avenue; at an intersection I slackened my pace, lifted my. against his arm. He asked her who she was, and what they had done, and how they had done it, but. encompassed me in an invisible arch. For the first time I felt alone, but not as in a crowd, for the. "In Havnor, years ago, I was in servitude. Those who freed me told me about a place where there. burnt ore was scraped down by naked slaves and shoveled into ovens to be burnt again. They came to. there were no clear spaces here. Being a head taller than those around me, I was able to see that. After a long time, she came back to the sunlight and the stableyard and her thoughts and puzzles. "But even if he's gone," she said, "surely some of the Masters are truly wise?". He made the sign; she looked at him for a moment. "That's easy," she said softly, and made the sign in return, "but not always safe, among strangers." It was not the face she had thought it. It was worn, and hard, and scarred all down one side. The. passengers. The bright colors of the women's clothes I had by now learned to accept, but the men. craft. Medra had been the Master Finder, until he went to the Grove. A young woman now taught that. His head hurt again, and he whimpered and shivered, trying to draw himself together for warmth. There was no warmth and no light. .Kembermouth, a walled, prosperous port city. They left the carter to his master's business and. learned wizardry, fed the chickens, milked the cow. He suggested, once, that Dulse keep goats. He. "Do you?" I asked. .strange-looking, having pale reddish skin, long pale hair, and narrow eyes the colour of ice. His. When he was Gelluk's prentice and assistant, he had encouraged his master in the study of the lore. Glosses of Danemer and the Arcana of the Enlades, and kept his mouth closed. He listened. He heard. the path continued, I saw faintly gleaming hedges, wet bunches of leaves hung over a metal gate. . "She taught me." .thought), the man on the sheet would say that Olaf or I was similar to himself -- we were not so. to call a truce and withdraw from the occupied Hardic islands if Maharion would seek no reprisal. .in the earliest days dragons and human beings were all one kind. Eventually these dragon-people. king. Roke ruled in the kings' stead. "Making. "Come along, then, Ulla," he said, and the heifer came a step or two towards him, towards. "Your turn to talk," she said, looking at me over her cup. .He was so distraught that when he made up his mind to call Silence he could not think of the. only because it had a weatherworker of its own aboard, who raised a wave to swamp the stolen boat. .She looked at me almost with pity. But I was stubborn. .brutal not cruel. He demanded obedience, but nothing else. Otter had seen slaves and their masters. really did look like a sculpture in azure metal -- studied me carefully. She no longer appeared. watermetal's long gone. Listen, young'un, do you even know what cinnabar is?". out inquiries, in the ways we have of doing so, but nothing and nobody replied. So we set off. solitude, but still she missed Rose and Daisy and Coney, and the chickens and the cows and ewes. .art, any word of the Language of the Making. It's always been so. They will not listen. So they. "Have you ever kept goats?" Dulse asked, in the same soft, polite voice. .There's no truth in this tale but one, which is that indeed one of the first Masters of Roke. GOLDEN WAS immensely happy and quite unconscious of it. "Old man's got his jewel back," said the carter to the forester. "Sweet as new butter, he is." Golden, unaware of being sweet, thought only how sweet life was. He had bought the Reche grove, at a very stiff price to be sure, but at least old Lowbough of Easthill hadn't got it, and now he and Diamond could develop it as it ought to be developed. In among the chestnuts there were a lot of pines, which could be felled and sold for masts and spars and small lumber, and replanted with chestnut seedlings. It would in time be a pure stand like the Big Grove, the heart of his chestnut kingdom. In time, of course. Oak and chestnut don't shoot up overnight like alder and willow. But there was time. There was time, now. The boy was barely seventeen, and he himself just forty-five. In his prime. He had been feeling old, but that was nonsense. He was in his prime. The oldest trees, past bearing, ought to come out with the pines. Some good wood for furniture could be salvaged from them. .out in a high, harsh voice. "Come up on to the hill, Thorion," she said. .deal between the beginning and the end. .noise. She wanted to cry but she had never been good at crying. She stood and watched the water. .moments. Nothing in him was whole, not even his madness. He couldn't remember the name he had told. on the bank. Sheep in the field between them and the Great House blatted softly. The morning sun. and inkpots and writings, two or three boys seated at the table, and the grey-haired, stocky man. companion with him. "Look for me at the end of summer," he said to Ember. .It circled, searching and searching, and flew back as it had come. .distrust of him. She was easy with him. He meant no harm to her. She thought there was kindness in. He knew it was well to use caution with this man. Otter had defeated Tinaral, and there was this. are no masters, and the rule of Serriadh is remembered, and the arts are honored. I have been. Of late, entering always deeper into the mysteries of a certain lore-book brought back from the. theirs, and they'll resent one another. And then, too, there are some true and real divisions. "Even if I knew it... When I'm with him I can't speak." .even then, if a wizard met up with one whose powers were greater than his own, he might be. South of Andanden lies a land where the ashes fell a hundred feet deep when last the volcano. "Master," Medra said, afoot, "wake up." "You said I had it," the girl said into the reeking gloom of the one-roomed hut. "I gave it up, Darkrose. I had to either do it and nothing else, or not do it. You have to have a. Note on dates: Many islands have their own local count of years. The most widely used dating system in the Archipelago, which stems from the Havnorian Tale, makes the year Morred took the throne the first year of history. By this system, "present time" in the account you are reading is the Archipelagan year 1058. .it into a House they knew. Some of them were for turning back, then. But the Windkey and the. practice, though even then it would never lose its strangeness. Highdrake's mastery of

spells and the night. Once for a moment something drew his mind away, some invasion of the outskirts of his. "I used him to help me get here and to tell me what to say to the Doorkeeper," Irian said. "I'm Hemlock dismissed that with a flick of his hand. "I am talking of the True Art," he said. "Now I will be frank with you. I advise you to write your parents -- I shall write them too -- informing them of your decision to go to the School on Roke, if that is what you decide; or to the Great Port, if the Mage Restive will take you on, as I think he will, with my recommendation. But I advise against visiting home. The entanglement of family, friends, and so on is precisely what you need to be free of. Now, and henceforth." shaped flowers nodding in the wind of morning. "Then why did you drink?" she asked. She thought about the School, where she had been so briefly. From here, under the eaves of the Grove, she saw it as stone walls enclosing all one kind of being and keeping out all others, like a pen, a cage. How could any of them keep their balance in a place like that? "Yes," Tern said, "and I will till she dies. And then I'll take her daughter to Roke. And if you." But that's. . . you think that I keep all these bottles here, in my apartment? ".sea, until in a final terrible flight they passed the Dragon's Run and came to the last island of language. Their true names in the Old Speech must be memorised in silence. The ambitious student. He had been walking almost asleep. The pallor of the werelight had faded, drowned in a fainter, black sky, and the little kissing squelch of their sodden feet in the mud and wet grass of the. "So when the Windkey returned, we were nine again. But divided. For the Summoner said we must meet. buttonless jacket. Her mother, Tangle, made a good living by curing and healing, bone-knitting

and file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (13 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. all over her yesterday, growling and muttering. Ordered the helm replaced." He meant Losen's chief. "Get them here. Take my men." Diamond was listening intently, frowning a little. "Free!" said the tall woman, and her voice cracked like a whip. Then she looked at her companions. "It's my house. Bren's house. He stays. Go or stay, it's up to you." "My mother was born in Endlane, round by Faliern Forest," Otter said. "Do you know that town? "It's cold out," she said. "Ice on the trough this morning. Will you be going on, this day?" He stared at her, seeing a round-faced woman, middle-aged, short and strong, with grey in her hair and dark eyes under dark brows, eyes that held his, held him, brought the truth out of his mouth. land beneath it reaching to the south. I remembered my geography lessons when I was a boy at Roke. When in 730 the first Archmage of Roke, Halkel of Way, excluded women from the school, among his brightly lit; I had the impression that above it trains of some kind were running, since the floor. There were many such isles in the Archipelago, made barren and desolate by rival wizards' blights and curses; they were evil places to come to or even to pass, and Medra thought no more about this one, until that night. "To destroy you." elaborately woven. Having made a fool of himself on Roke, he had come back to do it all over. had bequeathed him. Crude, monstrous, useless, it lay in the dark of his mind for sixty years. "Ard. My teacher." Heleth looked up, his face unreadable, its expression possibly sly. "You didn't." But - but Arren was King Lebannen - ".he had enough of the pure metal, the next stage was to refine it yet further into the Body of the round the mountain. He's there now." Once there in the Grove she had no thought of earning, or deserving, or even of learning. To be there was enough, was all. Then that was gone and he stood facing the witch-girl. Her look of accusation slowly changed. She put her face in her hands. "Somebody's been coming around," he said, incredulous that she could turn against him. "Who's been. So the school on Roke got its first student from across the sea, together with its first. "I am not a witch," she said. Her voice sounded high, metallic, after the men's deep voices. "I." Here he is, " said Azver, and the Doorkeeper was there, his smooth, yellowish-brown face tranquil as ever. It seemed that from Roke Knoll the whole extent of the Grove could be seen, yet if you walked in it you did not always come out into the fields again. You walked on under the trees. In the inner Grove they were all of one kind, which grew nowhere else, yet had no name in Hardic but "tree" In the Old Speech, Ember said, each of those trees had its own name. You walked on, and after a time you were walking again among familiar trees, oak and beech and ash, chestnut and walnut and willow, green in spring and bare in winter; there were dark firs, and cedar, and a tall evergreen Medra did not know, with soft reddish bark and layered foliage. You walked on, and the way through the trees was never twice the same. People in Thwil told him it was best not to go too far, since only by returning as you went could you be sure of coming out into the fields. good bed; he's tired. I'll sleep in the barn and be off in the morning. Cows are a pleasure to. with the animals, the dusky places. The cat leapt there, and then there was milk, and the deep

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