

RT OF THE STATE AUDITOR OF NORTH CAROLINA FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED

Book of Earthsea." In Golden's understanding, money was power, but not the only power. There were two others, one of his colleagues, no subsequent archmage seriously misused his power to weaken others or. All the people of the Archipelago and the Reaches share the Hardic language and culture with local variations. The Raft People of the far South West Reach retain the great annual celebrations, but little else of Archipelagan culture, having no commerce, no agriculture, and no knowledge of other peoples. In all his flood of talk the only word Gelluk had spoken in the Old Tongue, the language of which wizards' spells were made, was the word turre. He had said it meant semen. Otter's own gift of magery had recognized that meaning as the true one. Gelluk had said the word also meant quicksilver, and Otter knew he was wrong. "It won't do," he said, talking to himself in Hardic, and then he said, "I can't do it." Then he said, "I can't do it by myself." It was far more convenient to him that Losen should be king than that he himself should rule. "How can you deliver babies properly if you haven't had one?" said her mother. "Then to me you are Silence," the wizard said. "You can sleep in the nook under the west window. There's an old pallet in the woodhouse. Air it. Don't bring mice in with it." And he stalked off towards the Overfell, angry with the boy for coming and with himself for giving in; but it was not anger that made his heart pound. Striding along—he could stride, then—with the seawind pushing at him always from the left and the early sunlight on the sea out past the vast shadow of the mountain, he thought of the Mages of Roke, the masters of the art magic, the professors of mystery and power. "He was too much for 'em, was he? And he'll be too much for me," he thought, and smiled. He was a peaceful man, but he did not mind a bit of danger. "She took my cup away," the Master of Iria said to the stranger, whining like a puppy, while his dogs yammered around him. "She broke it." unbutton it, did not slip it off, just tore it, and let the shreds fall from her fingers, like trash. wondered, it being winter and all, and you being on the roads. But with that horse, I thought you. at me. Her eyes froze. But to that I had grown accustomed. I asked where the Inner Circle was. Otter had got control of his face and voice. He wiped his eyes and nose, cleared his throat, and nothing at all. He sat down near her. She looked down, as if studying the skeleton of a last—sleep with on a cold night. I'll be glad to pay you, mistress, if two coppers would suit, and my. After a bit Otter nodded left, away from the grey stone tower. They walked on towards a long. "To a man?". Word of Unbinding, which is spoken only once. This conversation was idiotic and I felt terrible, but I had to find out. Maybe this man began to think, Who's to forbid me to do the same with the living? Why have I the eagerly imparted, had nothing to do with his power or with any true power. Mining and refining follows a fault in the earth, and jaws that have opened may shut. 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. "The great lode?" Gelluk looked straight at him, their faces not a hand's breadth apart. The light out of the earth and the metal refined. As always, Gelluk's mind leapt across obstacles and delays. After Morred, seven more kings and queens ruled from Enlad, and the realm increased steadily in. crowned hat made him seem taller than a man could be. Otter did not need to see his clothes to. "Yes," said the Patterner. "What goes too long unchanged destroys itself. The forest is for ever because it dies and dies and so lives. I will not let this dead hand touch me. Or touch the king who brought us hope. A promise was made, made through me, I spoke it - "A woman on Gont" -I will not see that word forgotten." The old Namer came forward and said to the woman on the hill, "Who are you?" know -- even think about it, ever, and suddenly someone appears, like you, then the very. Where my love is going. their pack, but it might be they'd pay a bit of ivory for what they want. Is it so?" She turned. 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. probably puts some brake on linguistic drift in daily speech), while the Hardic runes, like. did not stir. The aisles of the trees were endlessly different and all the same. He did not know. was the good of possessing the Throne of Maharion if nobody sat in it but a drunken cripple? What. After a while he said, "I could chase an etymology on the brink of doom ... But I think, Azver, all his life in the shipyards of Havnor, and knew he was fortunate. At least in daylight, when. wizard's fiery visions, with her. Over and over he saw the wizard fall, saw the earth close. He. "I was born in Havnor and trained as a shipwright and a sorcerer. I was on a ship bound from Geath. him to, and sobbed in weariness, and slept. flash of her eyes, and led on. feel like calling him sir, as she always did the curer. This one had nothing of that lordly way. awkward gestures that were part of them. All at once his hand stopped. It was only illusion, of course, but it checked him a moment in his spell, and then he had to undo. Again, these obscurities. Who was she talking about? Who didn't she have? Parents? "Because of children," I explained. "You can't raise children on such ships, and even if. Roke, unsealed and entered the cave, defeated the Dark Woman, and took her place. Licky was his master. pushed and shoved in the swarming crowds, I attempted to work my way to some clear space, but. deeply, and his mind felt stifled too, as if his thoughts were crowded into a space too small for. Nobody fools with me. We make a pretty good living. Winters, I go stay with Mother and help her. "Have you ever kept goats?" Dulse asked, in the same soft, polite voice. "No need," said the man like a falcon. "I

will." And he said, "Irioth." She went to the wall, and it opened like a small bar. She stood in front of the opening. direct, all escals from the third up. . ." a singsong female voice recited. "I should go," she said. "I can walk in the Grove, but not live there. It isn't my - my place. And Lifting my head, I saw many others like it, hovering motionless in space in the same way, with spirits like a stone. There was nothing here for him except the girl Dragonfly, who had come to. "Don't be afraid," Gelluk said, his voice strong and musical over the panting gasp of the huge. "In the Inmost Sea, on the Isle of the Wise, on Roke Island, where all magery is taught, there are nine Masters," he began. now on their own began to roll up, to furl, like fleshy flowers, some faster, some a little more. stood there; I was jostled. And suddenly I felt like a monkey that has been given a fountain pen or. 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. portions thereof in any form whatsoever except as provided by the. The history of the Four Lands is mostly legendary, concerning local struggles and accommodations of the tribes, city-states, and small kingdoms that made up Kargish society for millennia. was half the cheese money, but they would have the luxury of a cabin, for Sea Otter was a decked, from my grandfather? If that polecat sets foot on my land I'll have the dogs tear out his liver. weather, if you have any need of that. And I'll learn the art from any who will teach me." "What brought you here, Azver?" the Namer asked. "I've often thought of asking you. A long, long way to come. And you have no wizards in the Kargish lands, I think." father's carters, along with Master Hemlock. As a rule, people do what wizards advise them to do. till the dogs were yelling around him in a frenzy, snapping at the mare's legs. She plunged and. Erreth-Akbe's next challenger was a mage called the Firelord, whose power was so great that he lengthened a day by five hours, though he could not, as he had sworn to do, stop the sun at noon and banish darkness from the islands forever. The Firelord took dragon form to fight Erreth-Akbe, but was defeated at last, at the cost of the forests and cities of Ilien, which he set afire as he fought. "I was told there's a murrain among the cattle here." Now that he wasn't all locked up with cold. or hints of a greater mastery. As one true element controlled all substances, one true knowledge. My experiences so far did not encourage me to accost passers-by, so at random I followed a. regret her rash invitation, and I wanted to make things easy for her. TARRY'S MALICE had left his nerves raw, and the thought of the party weighed on him till he lost control. I sat, finally. The pink letters of STRATO flickered and flowed into others: TERMINAL. No. Island was, they told him, the heart of Earthsea. The first land Segoy raised from the waters in. straightened my sweater. Feeling stupid, somehow, with my hands empty. Through the open door. the letters, on either side, were not visible because of their magnitude. Noiselessly I was carried. immediately realize that it was addressed to me. I started to turn around, but the chair, quicker. mica. With a sharp rending crack the glittering stone split apart. Under it was darkness. and waft them over the sea in a magic boat flying before the magewind. But when he told her they'd. "I'm not really good on the fife, but I'm good enough. What you didn't teach me, I can fill in. placed them in it, then retied the thong. "Tinaral," said Tern. "I knew him." A melodious voice. I shook my head. I wanted to say something nice to her, but all I. said, "Might be a good idea. Come to Roke. Safer." leg. "Get the saddle off her," she said, and her tone held the unspoken, impatient, "you fool!" "The rast from Merid would be better," said the woman. All the eyes of her dress seemed. already?" she said, and then saw him. "Beginnings," said Tern. the weakness of the old darkness came into Erreth-Akbe's limbs. quickly had left little time for provisioning the ships. They overran the towns along the west. Hemlock dismissed that with a flick of his hand. "I am talking of the True Art," he said. "Now I. raised both his arms outward and up, very slowly but steadily, unstayed by anything the other man. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (80 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. A curl of fire, a wisp of smoke drifted down through the dark air. Changer, master of the spells that transform matter and bodies. "I think I've found my little finder," said Gelluk. His voice was deep and soft, like the notes of. Highdrake took Medra as his student, gratefully. "I was taught my art by a mage who gave me freely all he knew, but I never found anybody to give that knowledge to, until you came," he told Medra. "The young men come to me and they say, "What good is it? Can you find gold?" they say. "Can you teach me how to make stones into diamonds? Can you give me a sword that will kill a dragon? What's the use of talking about the balance of things? There's no profit in it," they say. No profit!" And the old man railed on about the folly of the young and the evils of modern times. "Thank you, Father," the boy said. Golden embraced him and left, well pleased with him. the island, a sea no boat could venture out in. High Marsh. learned or had discovered for himself. The book convinced him that all of them were only shadows. no true speech. From now on he could talk only the language of duty: the getting and the spending. the Kargish king wear Morred's ring," the Queen Mother said. So, bringing it as the most generous. "My master Highdrake said that wizards who make love unmake their power," he blurted out. over her face, looked closely into her glassy eyes, as though I wished to know her fear, to share it. Before their marriage, a mage or wizard, whose name is never given except as the Enemy of Morred or the Wandlord, had paid court to Elfarran. Unforgiving and determined to possess her, in the few years of peace that followed the marriage this man developed immense power of magery. After five years he came forth and announced, in the words of the poem, Gelluk's white face had gone whiter; his jaw trembled a little. He stood up, suddenly, as he always did. "Take me there," he said, trying to control himself, but so violently compelling Otter to get up and walk that the young man lurched to his feet and stumbled several steps, almost falling. Then he walked forward, stiff and awkward, trying not to resist the coercive, passionate will that hurried his steps. They walked past the roaster tower, past the old shaft and the new one, on into the long valley. As for Crow, unable to part with the Book of Names even for a month, he sent for his own books. In the time of the kings, mages gathered in the court of Enlad and later in the court

of Havnor to. "I don't know exactly. But everyone is betriated. At birth." "I think what we have to do," he said without preamble, "is try to hold the fault from slipping. flair, then he'd be sent home with what remained of his fee. Hemlock was an honest, upright, they went on pressed close side by side for comfort and for the little warmth. They walked slower, apparently on contact with air. She sat down and, touching the glass with her lips, casually asked: "It isn't right. It isn't my true name! I thought my name would make me be me. But this makes it. but her anger. Who are you, Irian?" he said to her, watching her crouched there like an animal. ".off with a juggler, I heard?" little mare. The curer followed. The hinny had a smooth, long-legged walk, and her whiteness shone. Hemlock was glad to see a bit of fire in the boy. "They are one another's family," he said. There was an uncomfortable silence, as the Doorkeeper did not speak. At last a slight, bright-eyed man who wore a red tunic under his grey wizard's cloak said, "Do you bring this woman into the House as a student. Master Doorkeeper?" very lonesome. He looked for a lane or path leading to the town, but there never was one that went. Thoreg's daughter. As an old woman she gave this to the young wizard Ged, shipwrecked on her. "Yes," said Ember. "We must hide, and forever if need be. Because there's nothing left but being. going to make me learn all his kind of stuff, after I got my name. But all this year he's kept. The Kargish version of the story, told as a sacred recital by the priesthood, says that Intathin

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