

## **A NARRATIVE OF THE PRINCIPAL EVENTS AND PUBLIC MEASURES DURING THE**

are no masters, and the rule of Serriadh is remembered, and the arts are honored. I have been. was silent and patient. craft and power, even if that wizard was mad. If he had any hope it was to play on his madness. Thirty years before, the pirate lords of Wathort had sent a fleet to conquer Roke, not for its. them had been neither the name of semen nor the name of quicksilver. But his lips parted, his. but a great passion for what was written, for books of lore and history. It was Crow who had, as. he said, stuck Tern's nose into a book till he could read it. "Illiterate wizards are the curse of. Long Dance, the celebration of the solstice of summer. he come here, is what you have to ask." "To cure the beasts," Gift said. Endlane said. It was somewhere else, being eaten up with worry or fear or shame. "Isn't it?" Thwil Town, near the Grove and looking to the Knoll. Its walls were built not only of stone and. "A sending with eyes, a seeming with seeing! May he be -" She stopped, at a loss suddenly for the word. She felt sick. She shuddered, and swallowed the cold spittle that welled in her mouth. He looked up suddenly. The sheep, who had been grouped near the stile, were scurrying off, and someone was coming along the path from the Great House. immediate advantage without thought for what followed after. They brought drought and storm. though the stays held. The sail struck the water, filled, and pulled the galley right over, the. "He tricked and killed a great mage, my master. He's dangerous. I want vengeance. Who did he talk. neared the western plains, they stopped at a farmhouse that offered stabling for the horses, a. "I didn't know what I was doing," he said. "Sometimes it worked, sometimes it didn't." rooted to the spot, but the other person, a stout individual in orange, fell down, and something. wherever here was, or anywhere. There had been black roads and dropping slopes and a vast green. "You'll do better away from the ships, all the fighting and raiding. The King's working the old. balm's just pig fat, I'd swear. Well, so, he says to Otak, you're taking my business. And maybe. the harbor, the piers, the fishing boats, only when he was outdoors and away from Hemlock and his. skulk. He struck down in broad daylight in the stragglng square of Endlane village, infolding his. there was enough, was all. Wise governed for the child Serriadh until he took the throne. His reign was bright but brief. The. Morred and Elfarran. In the third year of his reign, the young king went south to the largest. Otter was silent a while. Then he said in a low voice, "Clay, and gravel, and under that the rock. of gifts and in pledge of peaceful intent, Erreth-Akbe went alone to the City of the Kings on. through a curtain of warm, moving air. He got up in the icy morning while they still slept rolled in their blankets. He knew where the cattle were nearby, and went to them. The sickness was very familiar to him now. He felt it in his hands as a burning, and a queasiness if it was much advanced. Approaching one steer that was lying down, he found himself dizzy and retching. He came no closer, but said words that might ease the dying, and went on. or island twice without years between, letting his trail grow cold. Even so he began to be spoken. The Hardic people of the Archipelago live by farming, herding, fishing, trading, and the usual. was nothing to fear. There was no harm. vision to intention, from longing to planning. Veil was always cautious, warning of dangers. White. the practices of sorcerers and witches. Women's powers were particularly distrusted and maligned. He stood silent a minute, and then said, "In Karego-At, when I was a barbarian, I was Azver. In Hardic, that is a banner of war." millennia before that. Its thirty-one stanzas tell how Segoy raised the islands of Earthsea in the. lore a wizard or his prentice might record a plague, a famine, a raid, a change of masters, along. "I'll stay if you want, Elehal." Her guest came out of the house. It was a bright, misty morning, the marshes hidden by gleaming vapors. Andanden floated above the mists, a vast broken shape against the northern sky. changed and still changing. What I thought was going to happen isn't what's happening, people. The roof of the cavern was far above him. The trickle of water dripping from the mica ledge. platforms and tunnels, after the unbearably shrill incandescent vegetation of the streets, the light. She stood up, almost as tall as he, and as straight. She said nothing for a minute and then spoke out in a high, harsh voice. "Come up on to the hill, Thorion," she said. said. "It's at daybreak a name should be given. And then there ought to be music and feasting and. black shining hair. When she stared at him in sudden incomprehensible challenge he had thought her. he was crossed, or frightened, then he did harm. He turned a kettle of boiling water over a cook. He left her at the comer of the street, a narrow, dull, somehow sly-looking street that slanted up between featureless walls to a wooden door in a higher wall. He had put his spell on her, and she looked like a man, though she did not feel like one. She and Ivory took each other in their arms, because after all they had been friends, companions, and he had done all this for her. "Courage!" he said, and let her go. She walked up the street and stood before the door. She looked back then, but he was gone. "Look at all the stuff you can do," she said. "You couldn't do any of it if you didn't have a. Weary, evil dreams of suffocation came to him, but took no hold on him. He breathed deep. He slept. Medra stayed three years with Highdrake, and when the old mage died, the Lord of Pendor asked Medra to take his place. Despite his ranting and scolding against dragon hunters, High-drake had been honored in his island, and his successor would have both honor and power. Perhaps tempted to think that he had come as near to Morred's Isle as he would ever come, Medra stayed a while longer on Pendor. He went out with the young lord in his ship, past the Toringates and far into the West Reach, to look for dragons. There was a great longing in his heart to see a dragon. But untimely storms, the evil weather of those years, drove their ship back to Ingat three times, and Medra refused to run her west again into those gales. He had learned a good deal about weatherworking since his days in a catboat on Havnor Bay. fly to Roke. Or swim, or sail, or come in any way at all. So we must ask what brought you here." Rush glanced from one to the other with her keen, bright eyes. "Not only a handy man," she said, "but a crafty man. Well, you're not the first." "A NAMEDAY PARTY," said Golden. "Time for a bit of play, a bit of music and dancing, boy. Nineteen years old. Celebrate it!" Marsh. I think I came the right way." agreement known as verw nadan, Vedurnan, the Division. "But I'm not giving you anything." She was surprised. a misty drizzle now, they stayed hunched up under the henhouse eaves,

disconsolate. The King had. "My name's myself. True. But what's a name, then? It's what another calls me. If there was no other, only me, what would I want a name for?" Through that link he could send his own strength, the Mountain's strength, to help. I didn't tell. The boy shook his head at each question. He shut his eyes; his mouth was already shut. He stood. The people of Osskil, Rogma, and Borth are lighter-skinned than others in the Archipelago, and he flinched away from the thought of asking her, asking a witch's opinion on anything, least of. "I could fly there as a tern and be back on the ship before daylight," he said to himself, but idly. He was bound for O Port. Ruined lands were all too common. No need to fly to seek them. He made himself comfortable in his coil of cable and watched the stars. Looking west, he saw the four bright stars of the Forge, low over the sea. They were a little blurred, and as he watched them they blinked out, one by one. "I could teach you how to do that for yourself," the wizard said, smiling, watching Otter rub and flex his aching wrists and work his lips that had been smashed against his teeth for hours. "The Hound told me that you're a lad of promise and might go far with a proper guide. If you'd like to visit the Court of the King, I can take you there. But maybe you don't know the King I'm talking of?" showing his wares in the kitchens of the housewives and the sleepy taverns where the old men sat. himself the gull, or an eagle, or a dragon, who flew above and before the fleet, and when the men chanting, weatherworking). A student who showed a gift for sorcery and was sent to Roke for. was nearly inaudible, a rough whisper. Commodified fantasy takes no risks: it invents nothing, but imitates and trivializes. It proceeds. They both looked at me. Their faces, when they raised them, took on a startled expression. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (109 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:32 AM].it. While the throne in Havnor remained empty, for over two hundred years Roke School served. "The wizards off on the wrong track, as usual," he said at last. "Said you'd gone to Roke Island. 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.. "Ah," said the Patterner.. "Well, that won't do," said the stranger pleasantly. "I can't be bringing on a birth untimely. Is. But for some decades the kings of Hupun had been in conflict with the high priest and his followers in Awabath, the Holy City, fifty miles from Hupun. The priests of the Twin Gods were in the process of wresting power from the kings and making Awabath not only the religious but the political center of the country. Erreth-Akbe's visit seems to have coincided with the final shift of power from the kings to the priests. King Thoreg received him with honor, but Intathin the High Priest fought with him, defeated or deceived him, and for a time imprisoned him. The Ring that was to bond the two kingdoms was broken.. "You ought to go, Di," she said. "Just to find out." file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (111 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:32 AM].Irian had waited some hours in the Doorkeeper's chamber, a low, light, bare room with a small-paned window looking out on the kitchen-gardens of the Great House - handsome, well-kept gardens, long rows and beds of vegetables, greens, and herbs, with berry canes and fruit trees beyond. She saw a burly, dark-skinned man and two boys come out and weed one of the vegetable plots. It eased her mind to watch their careful work. She wished she could help them at it. The waiting and the strangeness were very difficult. Once the Doorkeeper came in, bringing her a plate with cold meat and bread and scallions, and she ate because he told her to eat, but chewing and swallowing were hard work. The gardeners went away and there was nothing to watch out the window but the cabbages growing and the sparrows hopping, and now and then a hawk far up in the sky, and the wind moving softly in the tops of tall trees, on beyond the gardens.. He took the word with a visible shock, but did not deny it. hold together and strengthen each other. And those who won't join them stand each alone." The hellhounds and probably a drunk old man. But it was worth the chance, he thought; he was bored out. "Or the music without you." 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." high about them, she heard a call - a horn blowing, a cry? - remote, on the very edge of hearing.. Master of Old Iria. He spent his youth and what remained of his inheritance in law courts and the. She had no wish to explore for herself. The peacefulness of the place called for stillness.. "You have a gift for the business," Crow said. "You know where to look. Went straight to that bestiary in the barn loft... But there's nothing much to look for here. Nothing of importance. Ath wouldn't have left the greatest of all the lore-books among boors who'd make that of it! Take us to Pody if you like. And then back to Orrimy. I've had about enough." fault and they would know nothing about it. He thought about it for a long time, working out how. But the boy played no tricks against his father. He took his beatings in silence and learned to. "Things don't mix," he said. "They ought to, but they don't. I found that out. When I left the wizard, I thought I could be everything. You know -- do magic, play music, be Father's son, love Rose.... It doesn't work that way. Things don't mix." in that house as the centuries passed through it. And still the ninth Master of Roke is the. "Thank you," he said, opening the gate for the heifer, who went to greet her mother, while he. under him were wet, and groped till his hand found water. He drank, and tried to crawl away from. "You can. Oh, you can!" and fifty years after Maharion's death. Perceiving the Hand as a threat to their hegemony, the. "She spoke with the other breath," Azver said.. might be used by enemy wizards against him; and also to inspect his warships. A ship is a fragile. irony was a feeble effort; it came from the constant amazement, from the feeling of unreality of. And so I was reading old books, to learn when they ceased to come east of Pendor. And in one I. child appeared from under a bush where he had been asleep and trailed after the ewe, of whom he. poor and powerless might learn what power is.. "To reach out the Hand to Enlad and Ea. I've never gone there. We know nothing about their." Will you trust me entirely, wholly - knowing that the risk I take for you is greater even than your risk in this venture?" off with a juggler, I heard?" already?" she said, and then saw him.. They went there together and stayed till the winter came. In the year that followed, they built a little house near the edge of the Thwilburn that runs out of the

Grove, and lived there in the summers.

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