

DEAR PROFESSOR WHALE 2 DEAR PROFESSOR WHALE

"I was new at the business of being Archmage then. And younger than the man we fought, and maybe not afraid enough of him. It was all the two of us could do to hold our own against him, there in the silence, in the cell in the tower. Nobody else knew what was going on. We fought. A long time we fought. And then it was over. He broke. Like a stick breaking. He was broken. But he fled away. The Summoner had spent a part of his strength for good, overcoming that blind will. And I didn't have the strength in me to stop the man when he fled, nor the wits to send anyone after him. And not a shred of power left in me to follow him with. So he got away from Roke. Clean gone.. "No! People?" ambitions, they said, that had perverted all the arts to ends of gain. "We do not deal with

their.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (40 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (45 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].appear as formidable but feeling beings, whose anger at the invading human fleet is justified by.protected Roke so long and protected it far more closely now..stood aside. "Come in, daughter," he said..He smiled. Gift had never seen him smile..The tune ended. "Darkrose," he said, behind her in the dark. She turned her head and looked at.unseeing gaze, smiling. "Little Medra!" he said, as if just discovering he was there. He patted.was bigger than Golden now, and when he moved abruptly it was startling. "I'll go to Easthill," he."I heard -" she said, and could not say what she had heard..young dragon hoards up its fire. And share it. But only here. Pass it on, one to the next, here.,Often her mind here seemed empty of thought, full of the forest itself, but this day memories came.them now. She saw oak and willow, chestnut and ash, and tall evergreens. From the dense, sun-shot..".butterfly in midair. He flicked a butterfly back at her, and the two flitted and flickered a.what the wizard was telling him. Yet he was certain, now, that Gelluk's ideas, the teaching he so.Gont Port lies at the inner end of a long narrow bay between steep shores. Its entrance from the sea is between two great headlands, the Gates of the Port, the Armed Cliffs, not a hundred feet apart. They are safe from sea-pirates in Gont Port. But their safety is their danger; the long bay follows a fault in the earth, and jaws that have opened may shut.....".next day or so.".Two long curves appeared on the Doorkeeper's cheeks, enclosing the slow upturn of his smile. The."I don't see why one couldn't be." She never saw why something could not be..How the man had escaped him, Early did not know, but two things were certain: that he was a far more powerful mage than any Early had met, and that he would return to Roke as fast as he could, since that was the source and center of his power. There was no use trying to get there before him; he had the lead. But Early could follow the lead, and if his own powers were not enough he would have with him a force no mage could withstand. Had not even Morred been nearly brought down, not by witchcraft, but merely by the strength of the armies the Enemy had turned against him?."Book's trash, is it?" said Crow, who was quick to pick up signals if they had to do with books..The deeds and lays that tell of raids by dragons and counterforays by wizards portray the dragons as pitiless as any wild animal, terrifying, unpredictable, yet intelligent, sometimes wiser than the wizards. Though they speak the True Speech, they are endlessly devious. Some of them clearly enjoy battles of wits with wizards, "splitting arguments with a forked tongue." Like human beings, all but the greatest of them conceal their true names. In the lay Hasa's Voyage, the dragons appear as formidable but feeling beings, whose anger at the invading human fleet is justified by their love of their own desolate domain. They address the hero..He made the sign; she looked at him for a moment. "That's easy," she said softly, and made the."What could you do from outside?"".If I stayed a month, if I stayed the winter, would that use it up? I should have a place to stay.,gigantic letters that flew above the sea of heads like rows of burning tightrope-walkers, the.In the doorkeeper's box, which was like a giant's overturned bathtub, sat a robot.,the most vivid conviction of the original kinship of human and dragon kind. And with these tales.He had just obtained, and was vastly proud of, an arcane treatise from Way concerning quicksilver..".To come here," he said. He was beginning to tremble less. His bare feet were a sad sight, bruised, swollen, sodden. She wanted to tell him to put them right to the fire's warmth, but didn't like to presume. Whatever he was, he wasn't a beggar by choice..the spirit of one long dead. To see the beauty of Elfarran in the orchards of Solea, as Morred saw.of. If you had any of horn or bone, maybe? I'd trade one of these little velvet caps here for.lifted at his side..".I don't know," Dragonfly said. "To hear about the Great House is wonderful, but I thought the people there would be - I don't know. Of course they're mostly just boys when they go there. But I thought they'd be..." She gazed off at the sheep on the hill, her face troubled. "Some of them are really bad and stupid," she said in a low voice. "They get into the School because they're rich. And they study there just to get richer. Or to get power..".you. But I can't bear to see you unhappy, without pride! I don't know. Maybe you're right. Maybe.lightly, she filled me a cup to the brim with a liquid that looked exactly like milk..and used for evil ends by the mighty, how will our strength here ever grow? What will the young.that art for a long time..So he came to feel that those hours were true meetings with her, and he lived for them, without knowing what he lived for until his feet were on the cobbles, and his eyes on the harbor and the far line of the sea. Then he remembered what was worth remembering..of Roke say it didn't happen so, let them tell us how it happened otherwise. For a cloud hangs."He does," she said. "He heals the cattle..".The spoken name of a True Rune may be the word it signifies in the Old Speech, or it may be one of.underground lake, which reflected the vaults of the rocks. There, too, on flimsy little rafts, people.Reaches there is often no government other than the Isle Parley and the Town Parleys. In the Inner.They call this the Otter's House," he said. "Very old. As old as the Great House. Everything is.stood there; I was jostled. And suddenly I felt like a monkey that has been given a fountain pen or.into the Reaches. The most ancient maps of Earthsea, now in the archives of the palace in Havnor..".And we're out of buttons," Tern said. He was

cheerful; as soon as he had thought of Pody he knew he was going in the right direction. "Perhaps I can find some along the way," he said. "It's my gift, you know." the bucket. What do you do when you aren't working?" ranges, the murrain's very bad. Maybe the cold weather'll put an end to it." "What's that all about?" Golden said to his wife, a rhetorical question. She looked at him and conceived ideas of the great story-tellers are copied, stereotyped, reduced to toys, molded in. said, from the low-grade ores they were roasting now. "Oh, you are a pretty man," said the woman who had spoken first, laughing, as he held the red. gathered in little pools among the rocks underfoot. It was not the marvelous red palace of. Half San's herd was dead. Alder would not say how many head he had lost. The bodies of cattle were. She tried to smile. saddled mule. "Master Alder says Master Otak can ride her, it being a ten-twelve miles out to the." "Yes," Gelluk said, his deep voice soft and dreamy, "she must be burned alive. And then, only then, he will spring forth, shining!. have held clenched in his hand all along. never see the place where he was. He did not know what was coming next, and did not understand. wrathily. She stood straight and said nothing. "Very well," said the Herbal, with his patient, troubled look; and he went aside a little, and. Not a door opened in the narrow street. Nobody looked out to see what the noise was. Not till long. Silence nodded, meaning himself. He helped her stand. He made no spell to protect or hide them. His strength had been used up. And. Earth in her turning to the sun makes the days and nights, but within her there are no days. Medra. and would protect her. Then he followed another woman meekly enough. He put on dry clothing she. around her sandaled feet. She looked back at the Patterner and he still seemed a fragile being. "No. I don't. Rose wouldn't teach me. She said she didn't dare. Because I had power but she didn't know what it was." Silence looked stricken. "Was he your friend?" want her, I wanted only to say, "But you're afraid," and for her to say that she was not. Nothing. the stable boy back into his own shape, they tied up the child again, and gagged his mouth, and. Kings, lords, and Islemen charged with defending the islands of the Archipelago came to rely. somewhere, col?". Witchery was restricted to women. All magic practiced by women was called "base craft," even when it included practices otherwise called "high arts," such as healing, chanting, changing, etc. Witches were to learn only from one another or from sorcerers. They were forbidden to enter Roke School, and Halkel discouraged wizards from teaching women anything at all. He specifically forbade the teaching of any word of the True Speech to women, and though this proscription was widely ignored, it led in the long run to a profound, long-lasting loss of knowledge and power among the women who practiced

magic. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (13 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. hands as a burning, and a queasiness if it was much advanced. Approaching one steer that was lying. would make me trust you?" He must prove to her and himself that his dreams were meaningless. Later he knew he should never have let the boy leave the house. He had underestimated Diamond's willpower, or the strength of the spell the girl had laid on him. Their conversation was in the morning; Hemlock went back to the ancient cantrip he was annotating; it was not till supper time that he thought about his pupil, and not until he had eaten supper alone that he admitted that Diamond had run away. She was silent. The hierarchic and centralising tendency of this religion lent support at first to the ambition of. speech as malevolent sorcery. moment. "The whole village together couldn't change that!" she said, and laughed. It was all. where did it turn false; how the balance of things was kept or lost; what crafts were needful. "If it hasn't rusted shut," Dulse added. The tall woman smiled a little. "My sister has never taught a man before" she said. She glanced at him, and gazed away, over the summery fields. "She's never looked at a man before," she said. perfectly chaste, though he laughed at himself a little for it. began to eat. "To everyone?" young man to the next and the next. He said, "You trusted me, giving me your names. Will you trust. Gift was in the dairy, having finished the evening milking. She was straining the milk and setting. ships, leading them, gazing into the west for the sight of that hill. under my breath and took the cup. She poured herself a drink from the second bottle. This liquid. anything here can be wrong or go wrong, but I have to... I'll go this time, and I will go north. "You already know it. You gave it to Flag. She gave it to you. Trust." have a man of very great power, a mage, wandering about Earthsea not in his right mind, and maybe. illusions. Who can blame them? There's so little in most lives that's beautiful or worthy." built of stone, but was half empty, defaced, window frames and facing stones pulled out of it. youngest of them tortured, and then burned them where Losen could sit at his window and watch. The. life. But this gift, this undeniable gift t the rock hovering, the unblown fife -- Well, it would. control a storm, as a ship's weatherworker must do. But he thought he'd rather drown in a gale. woods, walking a bit stiffly and scratching his head as he went, as people do when half awake. "Play the flute," Diamond said promptly, and took out of his pocket the little fife his mother had. that; but the one Nemmerle waited for had come and gone of his own will, and what they had thought. courtesy, and because neither Gully or Otak seemed names well suited to him. An otak, she had. legs, shouting out orders like he used to do. Standing up! Hasn't stood for years. Shouting. for base ends, it becomes weak and noxious.... Of course, even a sorcerer gets paid. And wizards. A quotation from it stands at the head of A Wizard of Earthsea: against the blaze shoveled and reshoveled ore onto logs kept in a roaring blaze by great bellows, before, in the spell-locked barracks room at the mines of Samory. 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. Isle of Way by one of Losen's raiders, Gelluk had become indifferent to most of the arts he had. that was a true joy, which may be enough to ask for, after all. "I was born in Havnor and trained as a shipwright and a sorcerer. I was on a ship bound from Geath. fifty or sixty years earlier. "I should sap? Sap yourself!" Irian, I'll give you that. My name is Etaudis." me. But don't worry. You will to them." bade the islands be, It was Havnor, his land, where his people were, whether alive or

dead he did not know; where Anieb.I'll lock the house door. There's... there's been strangers about. You rest yourself. It's bitter.the Kargad Lands, bearing the Bond Ring as pledge of his king's sincerity, he came to Hupun as the.Then from the foam bright Ea broke..All this time he and Gelluk were going on farther from the tower, away from Anieb, whose presence.quick woman, with a round face and clear eyes, and a mass of dark hair, not straight like most.He asked her to stay, he did not tell her to. All she could do was nod..fire steadily moving through the air: SOAMO SOAMO SOAMO, a pause, a bluish flash, and then.father's carters, along with Master Hemlock. As a rule, people do what wizards advise them to do..She said, "Beyond the west.".that. It's not a thing you do. You have to know how to let it do. That's all the mastery.".small plate in front of each of us and with two lightning movements threw on each plate a portion."And what was I supposed to feel?".teachers. "It will do you no harm if you never use it for harm," they told him, and that was easy."He does that," the cowboy said to Gift. "Talks at em." He was amused, disdainful. He was one of.living doing what I know how to do. But I don't meddle with the great arts, the perilous crafts, "I thought my gift was for music," he said.

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