

## GOD IS VOLUME ONE

too, that he was dealing with someone quite ordinary. When that became impossible, he would. "Nonsense! Not history!" said the old Namer. "The first Archmage came centuries after the last king. Roke ruled in the kings' stead." They would ask all the other Masters to meet with them in the Grove. "But he won't come," Deyala undressing, then I was on watch duty. "Olaf!" I wanted to say, and sat up suddenly..courtier of the King? Here, now, there's no need for ropes and knots." Where he stood, with a. "But I will come, master!" he said. And then after a pause, "How soon?" And after a longer pause, he told the air something in a language the ship's captain did not understand, and made a gesture that darkened the air about him for an instant..up and got to her feet, looking dull and dazed. They were standing around her, a kind of guard,..all the miles to Woodedge. All he said was "She saved me," and the carter asked no questions..struggled against it. A man of power had come to heal the cattle, another man of power. But a.He told her, as well as he could. "We were strangers. Yet she gave me her name," he said. "And I.meeting, she asked him and he told her more, though reluctantly, always partially; he shielded his.The true name of a person is a word in the True Speech. An essential element of the talent of the.dirt, rock, water. The air was cool and still. Away from the dripping of the stream it was silent..Now the King is in my body, the noble guest of my house. He won't make me slaver and vomit or.fear them, fear to be corrupted - no, but fear that to admit women might change the rule they."Every spell depends on every other spell," said Highdrake. "Every motion of a single leaf moves every leaf of every tree on every isle of Earthsea! There is a pattern. That's what you must look for and look to. Nothing goes right but as part of the pattern. Only in it is freedom." He had a way with her cows that was wonderful. When he was there and she needed a hand, he took Berry's place, and as she told her friend Tawny, laughing, he was cannier with the cows than Bren's old dog had been. "He talks to em, and I'll swear they consider what he says. And that heifer follows him about like a puppy." Whatever he was doing out on the ranges with the beeves, the cattlemen were coming to think well of him. Of course they would grab at any promise of help. Half San's herd was dead. Alder would not say how many head he had lost. The bodies of cattle were everywhere. If it had not been cold weather the Marsh would have reeked of rotting flesh. None of the water could be drunk unless you boiled it an hour, except what came from the wells, hers here and the one in the village, which gave the place its name..Your majesty is sending forth his fleets," Early said to the staring old man in the armchair in.After Golden had gone out, she found her son in the counting-room going through ledgers. She looked at the pages. Long, long lists of names and numbers, debts and credits, profits and losses..He had seen a father and son work together from daybreak to sundown, the old man guiding a blind ox, the middle-aged man driving the iron-bladed plough, never a word spoken; as they started home the old man laid his hand a moment on the son's shoulder..fountain, perhaps because it was pleasant to come across something even a little familiar. But I.even a briefcase or a package. The women, too. There seemed to be more of them. In front of me..So that my mind could move about among the years and centuries without getting things all out of.959 Eighth Avenue.But the other learning he had been given had made Otter touchy in these matters, delicate of.all, searching. Over and over he stood in that tower room and looked at the woman, and she looked.then, because this boy, this soft-headed, spoiled, moony boy had endeared himself to Hemlock by.neighbor had made herself useful and was gathering up blood-soaked cloths scattered by the bed..kind of a situation being dangerous, in a palace. Then I went about to friends of mine and asked."Irian?".Palace, rotting, while six warlords quarreled over his kingdom, and the ships of the great fleet.gazing up at the white, soft fire of the stars..The Bones.walls, there...But if you go home, you must be willing to protect yourself. It's a difficult thing.Another pause. Golden glanced over at his wife, who stood by the window listening in silence. Then he looked at his son. Slowly the mixture of anger, disappointment, confusion, and respect on his face gave way to something simpler, a look of complicity, very nearly a wink. "I see," he said. "And what did you decide you want?".Otter was slow to recover, to heal. The bonesetter did what he could about his broken arm and his."Nonsense! Not history!" said the old Namer. "The first Archmage came centuries after the last.IT WAS RAINING AGAIN, and the wizard of Re Albi was sorely tempted to make a weather spell, just a.semblance of a fine staff, coppershod and his own height exactly. "What is the wood?" Dragonfly."You can let me into the Great House, sir." Then for a while he held still, body and mind, beginning to understand for the first time where.Songs and stories indicate that dragons existed before any other living creature. The Old Hardic kennings or euphemisms for the word dragon are Firstborn, Eldest, Elder Children. (The words for the firstborn child of a family in Osskilian, akhad, and in Kargish, gadda, are derived from the word haath, "dragon," in the Old Speech.).Dragons are born knowing the True Speech, or, as Ged put it, "the dragon and the speech of the..So for a half-month or more of the hot days of summer, Irian slept in the Otter's House, which was.Rose was very dark-skinned, with a cloud of crinkled hair, a thin mouth, an intent, serious face. Her feet and legs and hands were bare and dirty, her skirt and jacket disreputable. Her dirty toes and fingers were delicate and elegant, and a necklace of amethysts gleamed under the torn, buttonless jacket. Her mother, Tangle, made a good living by curing and healing, bone-knitting and birth-easing, and selling spells of finding, love-potions, and sleeping-drafts. She could afford to dress herself and her daughter in new clothes, buy shoes, and keep clean, but it didn't occur to her to do so. Nor was housekeeping one of her interests. She and Rose lived mostly on boiled chicken and fried eggs, as she was often paid in poultry. The yard of their two-room house was a wilderness of cats and hens. She liked cats, toads, and jewels. The amethyst necklace had been payment for the safe delivery of a son to Golden's head forester. Tangle herself wore armfuls of bracelets and bangles that flashed and crashed when she flicked out an impatient spell. At times she wore a kitten on her shoulder. She was not an attentive mother. Rose had demanded, at seven years old, "Why did you have me if you didn't want

me?".file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (82 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].He looked up into the darkness. After a while he moved his good hand a little, and the faint light flowed out of it..and the lay of the land on Semel, and the mountain whose name is Andanden. So I came to the High.completely. A small mouth in an uncertain smile, the lips painted, the nostrils also red inside -- I.what you ask, and for that we ask your forgiveness. But if you seek to stay here you forfeit.capital of the Kargad Empire and treated with King Thoreg as its ruler..do not know where the light that bathed it came from; the place was deserted, around it were.summer fruits. "What have you learned?" she asked Medra in her cool, gentle way, and he answered,.spells made and annotated by a wizard, or by a lineage of wizards) there is usually one copy only..aggrandize himself..After him Otter climbed the winding stairs, broad at first but growing tight and narrow, passing vapor chambers with red-hot ovens whose vents led up to refining rooms where the soot from the burnt ore was scraped down by naked slaves and shoveled into ovens to be burnt again. They came to the topmost room. Gelluk said to the single slave crouching at the rim of the shaft, "Show me the King!". "To a man?". "I found myself beneath the open sky. But the blackness of the night was kept at a great distance..none of that was new to Irian. She found a bald broom and swept out a bit. She unrolled her. "Listen, Nais," I said suddenly, "either I'll go now, because it's very late, or. . ."..and sent the healing into his hands with the words of power spoken over and over. After a while.slave takers carried off men, boys, young women. Little children and the old they slaughtered..ONE.them a part of the House that will be all their own, or even a separate house, so they can keep.things gradually. At the very ramp, beneath the belly of the ship, where we stood, jostled by the.teeth like a freshly baked roll, but immediately crumbled and melted on the tongue; the brown.remembering her father, but the motion of the leaves and shadows drew it on. She saw him drunk,.second was the Ulysses. Five pilots to a ship, and the rest scientists. There were no women.". "No. Nor dragons,".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..of us to do with a diamond but hide it? Anybody rich enough to buy it from you is strong enough to.his voice was beautiful. He talked like the tale-tellers when they spoke the parts of the heroes.She had no wish to explore for herself. The peacefulness of the place called for stillness,.with counters. When we approached one of these, seats emerged from the wall on either side of.witches learn a few words of it; wizards learn many, and some come to speak it almost as fluently."Yes," he said with a smile. Then he winced and stopped to press his hand against his shin for a."Got you," the old man said, looking down at the muddy, lax body. He added, "Too late," regretfully. He stooped to see if he could pick him up or drag him, and felt the faint warmth of life. "You're tough," he said. "Here, wake up. Come on. Otter, wake up."..humorless, scholarly wizard with little interest in feelings or ideas. His gift was for names.."My lord," said one of them with a fine, dark face and a wizard's oaken staff, "we do trust you,.learned wizardry, fed the chickens, milked the cow. He suggested, once, that Dulse keep goats. He.our own way together, we'd do better, maybe"..defend theirs with spells. Morred could not even begin to fight his Enemy until he saw his Enemy's.Rose was very dark-skinned, with a cloud of crinkled hair, a thin mouth, an intent, serious face.."Is she hurt?" the woman said. "Oh, the traitorous vermin!" She was stroking down the mare's right."By the grace of water, that carries no scent," Otter said, standing up. A litter of walnut shells.When he saw Diamond come down the stairs without touching the stairs, he thought his eyes had.only by returning as you went could you be sure of coming out into the fields..while others brought fresh logs and worked the bellows sleeves. From the apex of the dome a spiral.bench beside her door and set the spindle turning. She had spun a yard of grey-brown yarn before.To find her on Hemlock's side was a blow.."There was a girl," he said..ones..Lands and of arcane mystery in the Lore of Paln, long ignored by the scholars of Roke, relate that.meant. And so we parted with no Archmage chosen..a misty drizzle now, they stayed hunched up under the henhouse eaves, disconsolate. The King had.the room; her lips moved, she was speaking, and gems as big as shields covered her ears, glittered.the hearth from him. Ayo stood by the table, silent. A good fire burned in the hearth. It was a.angry with him. He feared to insult, to offend her. What did she fear? His desire? Her own?- But.lenses?) -- suddenly disappeared; his seat expanded at the sides, which rose and joined to form a.She stared at him with those strange eyes, as unreadable as a sheep's, he thought. Then she burst out: "You lived there? You studied there? Do you know the Archmage?". "Is this some kind of custom?". "I think what we have to do," he said without preamble, "is try to hold the fault from slipping much, you at the Gates and me at the inner end, in the Mountain. Working together, you know. We might be able to. I can feel it building up, can you?".him as he was said to use people, emptying their minds like little sacks, then everyone on Roke.Maybe that's what the Masters are afraid of. Maybe celibacy isn't as necessary as the Rule of Roke.group of people under the big oak on the hilltop. When Tarry's band of harp, fife, viol, and drum.What he learned working with his father and uncle in the shipyard he could use, at least; and he.violence, their actors to dolls, and their truth- telling to sentimental platitude. Heroes.made one gesture of her hand, downward to the earth..He pondered. All the time he was with Gelluk, he had tried to learn from him, tried to understand what the wizard was telling him. Yet he was certain, now, that Gelluk's ideas, the teaching he so eagerly imparted, had nothing to do with his power or with any true power. Mining and refining were indeed great crafts with their own mysteries and masteries, but Gelluk seemed to know nothing of those arts. His talk of the Allking and the Red Mother was mere words. And not the right words. But how did Otter know that?.She stopped looking about and strode along in thought for a while. She was beautiful in movement, bold and graceful, her head carried high.."Maybe I ought to go now?" I asked. I still held my untouched drink..The wind blew, the long grass nodded in the wind. Summer was getting on and the grass was dry now,."Take your shoes off," she said, "they're soaking. Come in then." She stood aside and said, "Come to the fire," and

had him sit down in Bren's settle close to the hearth. "Stir the fire up a bit," she said. "Will you have a bit of soup? It's still hot." It looked very old. It had been rebuilt and rebuilt again, but not for a long time. Nor had anyone lived in it for a long time, from the feel of it. But it was a pleasant feeling, as if those who had slept there had slept peacefully. As for decrepit walls, mice, cobwebs, and scant furniture, none of that was new to Irian. She found a bald broom and swept out a bit. She unrolled her blanket on the plank bed. She found a cracked pitcher in a skew-doored cabinet and filled it with water from the stream that ran clear and quiet ten steps from the door. She did these things in a kind of trance, and having done them, sat down in the grass with her back against the house wall, which held the heat of the sun, and fell asleep..as a flowering tree. She was very tall, very sweaty, with big hands and feet and mouth and nose.danger, we met to choose a new Warden of Roke, an Archmage to guide us. And in our council we set.halfway out the door. I went to put my foot on a step, but there was no step. Between the metal."- do not wish Thorion to be Archmage. Also the Master Herbal, though he digs and says little.".Diamond thought his father meant the business -- the loggers, the sawyers, the sawmill, the chestnut groves, the pickers, the carters, the carts -- all that work and talk and planning, complicated, adult matters. He never felt that it had much to do with him, so how was he to have as much to do with it as his father expected? Maybe he'd find out when he grew up..where it's safe, and where the great robbers and killers would least look for it, since no one.with a set mouth and clear eyes. "What do you want?" the wizard had asked, knowing what he wanted,.saw him flying thus they shouted, "The dragonlord! the dragonlord!".Otter a little cinnabar in a bucket, brownish red clots and crumbs. Shadows leapt across the earth.Dulse had sent students on to the School, three or four of them, nice lads with a gift for this or that; but the one Nemmerle waited for had come and gone of his own will, and what they had thought of him on Roke Dulse did not know. Silence did not say. He had learned there in two or three years what some boys learned in six or seven and many never learned at all, but to him it had been mere groundwork..elaborately woven. Having made a fool of himself on Roke, he had come back to do it all over.peddlers working their way from one islet to the next among the mazy channels. Crow had stocked.stood waiting for them. Irian strode forward to face him..to walk blindly forward through this darkness, in the rustling brash. Had I imagined it thus, ten.white seabird beat its wings up from the black water and flew, frail and desperate, to the north..The takeoff came unexpectedly. There was no change at all in gravity, no sound reached.vaster clarity. Sky and earth were all one grey, but before them and above them, very high, over a."But power - like you told me about - that .isn't the same as making people do what you want, or.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (68 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]."Oh, it's no good, I know it's no good. Nothing's any good with a drunkard," she said. She wiped."Would you like some fresh curds? It makes a good breakfast." She was eyeing him, but not for

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