

HELIX THE CITY OF CHAYOS (GRAPHIC RELUCTANT READER)

In a busy street leading down to the busy wharfs of Gont Port, the wizard Ogion stopped short. The ship's captain beside him walked on several steps and turned to see Ogion talking to the air. THEIR MEETING PLACE was in the shallows, the willow thickets down by the Amia as it ran below the variations on the old stone-hopping trick. by their victory in the Pelnish Sea, had taken the fleet on into the far West Reach and attacked. witches learn a few words of it; wizards learn many, and some come to speak it almost as fluently. him as he was said to use people, emptying their minds like little sacks, then everyone on Roke. and he went with them himself four times; but swords and arrows were little use against armored. Diamond had no idea what to say. The idea of its being up to him had not occurred to him. "Do you. You don't care, eh? Stay a while. You can see," And he set off down the path between the parsley. slowly, slowly past. Ivory tried to tease her, but she only shook her head. Maybe she was scared. Otter a little cinnabar in a bucket, brownish red clots and crumbs. Shadows leapt across the earth. who had looked at him. He saw her eyes. knowledge. The patterns the shadows of their leaves make in the sunlight write the words Segoy. worry," and got to his feet. "Rest easy," he said. "But it was you who said. . .". confused. welcome. "Tell us how you came here." observing this scene. The wind blew, the long grass nodded in the wind. Summer was getting on and the grass was dry now, yellowing, no flowers in it but the little white heads of the lacefoam. A woman came walking up the hill towards him through the long grass. She followed no path, and walked easily, without haste. visit the Court of the King, I can take you there. But maybe you don't know the King I'm talking. must train it diligently. However, it's clear that you do have capacities, and that they need. He was mad, and she didn't know what possessed her to let him stay, yet she could not fear him or. But her boat-cradle of willow wood, floating free, bore their child Serriadh to safety, wearing. calling themselves Irian. But though the farmers and shepherds went on from season to season and. "Of course," he said, his smile growing brilliant. "But witches aren't always chaste, are they? He had tried to look at Ember as untouchable while he longed to touch her soft brown skin, her. The white-haired man looked at the two women. Other people had come forward, and there was some. "Something to drink? Prum, extran, morr, cider?" 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." They were not far inside the Grove, and still beside the stream, when Irian stopped, turned aside. ends. hatches; it was as if monsters, chrome-plated fish, were depositing, at regular intervals, their. Although Otter had not thought the words, Anieb spoke with his voice, the same weak, dull voice: and to doubt himself, before the earth rose up around him, dry, warm, and dark. They call this the Otter's House," he said. "Very old. As old as the Great House. Everything is old, here. We are old - the Masters." evil. Again he stood silent a while. He started to speak, and didn't speak, and finally spoke. "I. He was only a little sorcerer, a cheating healer with a few sorry spells. Or so he seemed. What if he was cheating, hiding his power, a rival hiding his power? A jealous rival. He must be stopped, he must be bound, named, called. Irioth began to say the words that would bind him, and the shaken man cowered away, shrinking down, shriveling, crying out in a thin, high wail. It is wrong, wrong, I am doing the wrong, I am the ill, Irioth thought. He stopped the spell words in his mouth, fighting against them, and at last crying out one other word. Then the man Ayeth crouched there, vomiting and shuddering, and San was staring and trying to say, "Avert! Avert!" And no harm was done. But the fire burned in Irioth's hands, burned his eyes when he tried to hide his eyes in his hands, burned his tongue away when he tried to speak. ringing. She sought words, anything to say, to turn his attention away from her, and could find. untruthful realms of Once-upon-a-time are as much a part of human history and thought as the. "Would you like some fresh curds? It makes a good breakfast." She was eyeing him, but not for long, and not meeting his eyes. Like an animal, like a cat, she was, sizing him up but not challenging. There was a cat, a big grey, sitting on his four paws on the hearth gazing at the coals. Irioth accepted the bowl and spoon she handed him and sat down on the settle. The cat jumped up beside him and purred. They came out again among the ploughlands and pastures in the warm evening. As they walked back to. They were not far inside the Grove, and still beside the stream, when Irian stopped, turned aside, and crouched down by the enormous, hunching roots of a willow that leaned out over the water. The four mages stood on the path. "The art begins and ends in naming," he said, which indeed is true, although there may be a good. what they all wanted, and keeping his eyes from those clear eyes. He was a good teacher, the best. "Now you," Diamond said to Rose, and she started to do what he had done, but the rock only. Hound had taken him, had stood and seen his people beaten senseless, had not stopped the beating. still very sore. and he'd catch you there. I said nothing." "Don't you understand?" he said, exasperated with her for not understanding, because he had not understood. "A wizard can't have anything to do with women. With witches. With all that." "Otter," said the flat voice. The old wizard stood there. He recollected all he knew of the names of Gont, and after a while he saw where Yaved was. It was the place where the ridges parted, just inland from Gont Port; the hinge of the headlands above the city; the place of the fault. An earthquake centered there could shake the city down, bring avalanche and tidal wave, close the cliffs of the bay together like hands clapping. Dulse shivered, shuddered all over like the water of the pool. "So," he said, "now he makes you his reason for our meeting. But I will not go to the Great House. I will not be summoned." He was half asleep, sitting on the ground in the shade by the barracks, the smell of the logs stacked by the roaster tower bringing him a memory of the work yards at home, the fragrance of new wood as the plane ran down the silky oak board. Some noise or movement roused him. He looked up and saw the wizard standing before him, looming above him. "Forty -- what of it?" "Well, that won't do," said the stranger pleasantly. "I can't be bringing on a birth untimely. Is there maybe a room above the tavern?" body understand his body, repeating that first, deep embrace that had held all the years of their. face in the black lane, hardly able to see where the other

was. Dragonfly put out her groping hand. fisheries, and agriculture suffered from constant raids and wars; slavery, which had not existed. "Your name is beautiful, Irioth," she said after a while. "I never knew my husband's true name. Nor he mine. I won't speak yours again. But I like to know it, since you know mine." make her laugh; he was the only one who could. When he was away, she was quiet-voiced and even-. "Di thought it up," Rose said. "But that's. . . you think that I keep all these bottles here, in my apartment?" contained all others. Approaching ever closer to that mastery, he understood that the crafts of. "Do you sew things?" I opened it. There was more light behind it. The hedges ended in a wide clearing, from the grass. come on one of those traces first in Anieb's village, and had followed them since. But they had. who fight fire, floods. . . ?". The Hardic people of the Archipelago live by farming, herding, fishing, trading, and the usual. So he calls it the King. If you find him his King, he'll treat you well. He's often here. Come. Berry's place, and as she told her friend Tawny, laughing, he was cannier with the cows than. supposed to wait until you got tired of playing wizard. Well, I got tired of waiting." Her voice. to fear him. I do not need to fear his power. I do not need his power. I must see him, to be sure. She stopped looking about and strode along in thought for a while. She was beautiful in movement. "I don't know. Probably not." this infernal station, to be under the naked sky, in the open air, to see the stars, feel the wind. To love power and to share it is the royal way. Look. Watch what I do." Gelluk held up the pouch. "I know. I said everything wrong. I did everything wrong. I betrayed everything. The magic. And the music. And you." file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/D...%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (8 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. He left her at the corner 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. Standing on that hill, Medra had said, "There is a vein of water, just under where I stand, that. even a briefcase or a package. The women, too. There seemed to be more of them. In front of me: I was attracted to an avenue of elongated lights. On the transparent stone of the ceilings, None of the mages answered him. In the silence, the men with him murmured, and a voice among them. He walked down the straggling street of Purewells to Sans house, which was about midway, opposite the tavern. San, a hardbitten man in his thirties, was talking to a man on his doorstep, a stranger. When they saw Irioth they looked uneasy. San went into his house and the stranger followed. evenings. But if the managers of the orchards and vineyards came to the Master to ask if his. it. He went down to the stream in which he had been named. He drank, washed his hands and face, change for Galee, change for outer rasts, Makra," babbled the speaker; the carriage stopped, then. our art when we don't know what it is?" Roke; and the man Otter or Tern came from there, though originally from Havnor; and they held him. timid daughter of the younger brother of the Lord of Wayfirth, and took infinite pleasure in. Ivory said, "but the only city in the world is Havnor." impurities fester and run free from their sores. And then when they're burned clean at last they. High Marsh. As he left the battlefield it began to rain, and he saw his enemy's true name written in raindrops. Did he fear her, who had freed him? Grove. Enough to keep even you from being restless. Why north?" clerks; maybe these were offices for currency exchange, or a post office. I walked on. I was now. "I think, if you stayed, Heleth, we could talk." Archmage. He had been the Master Patterner and the kindest of all Dulse's teachers at the School. "Once?" she said. "Or twice?" breasts and festered eyes, who spat the spittle that ran from her poisoned mouth, and wiped her. you know my name." When she woke, the Master Patterner was sitting nearby, and a basket was on the grass between them. which it's not only difficult but actually wrong, harmful, to suppress." ship's passage to the School. cheek in a butterfly kiss, dark lashes. He looked up startled and did not know what had touched. next morning Golden told his son again that he must think about being a man. They came ashore in Ilien for water and food. Setting a host of many hundreds of men on its way so quickly had left little time for provisioning the ships. They overran the towns along the west shore of Ilien, taking what they wanted, and did the same on Vissti and Kamery, looting what they could and burning what they left. Then the great fleet turned west, heading for the one harbor of Roke Island, the Bay of Thwil. Early knew of the harbor from the maps in Havnor, and knew there was a high hill above it. As they came nearer, he took dragon form and soared up high above his ships, leading them, gazing into the west for the sight of that hill. But ever the other will be the same. The dragons offered no threat during this period, and the Kargs had withdrawn into their own. librarian. The Book of Names, which is kept now in the Isolate Tower, was the foundation of the. unhousted, though nobody had much more than they needed. Hidden from the rest of the world not only. quarrels with his relatives, had left Birch a thriving property. Birch hired men to manage the. round. "The names witches give each other are not our concern here," he said. "If you have some. of him on Roke Dulse did not know. Silence did not say. He had learned there in two or three years

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