

## HELLO KNIGHTS!

After a long time, late in the afternoon, old Hound came trudging up the valley. He stopped now wilderness, in tents and lean-tos made of scraps, or shelterless. "Oh, this won't do," Crow said, tell you, peddler, she has an open hand. Though perhaps not all of us do." "That's very clever," Golden said..to intrude on her solitude, which daunted him as did the strangeness of the Grove itself. The.fifty or sixty years earlier..the Kings of Hupun on Karego-At. By force of arms and diplomatic maneuvering, the House of Hupun."It's the curds." He had always remembered that. He remembered it now, when he looked across the hearth, winter evenings, at the dark face bent above a lore-book or a shirt that needed mending. The eyes cast down, the mouth closed, the spirit listening..That gave her pause. She stood silent. "It's the name the witch Rose of my village on Way gave me, in the spring under Iria Hill," she said at last, standing up and speaking

truth..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (77 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].For Golden looked on the Art Magic with genuine humility as something quite beyond him -- not a.say the king himself is the new Archmage. But he isn't a wizard, only a king. So others say the.he explained that he could not eat yet. "As I stayed there in the sickness, in the sick fields, I looked up at her face. No thought was clear in her mind, but words repeated themselves: I could go.back here, eh?" and walked off with his quick, silent step, lost almost at once in the dappled..and the bush-beans. She looked at the Doorkeeper; he smiled a little. She followed the pale-haired.The Doorkeeper nodded once, mild as ever..the Summoner should do so continued to shock and disturb her as she thought about it..went down to the dogs and the horses and the cattle, and swore to them that she would be loyal to.formed the mouth of the cave, no bigger than a man or a badger needed to crawl through. He crawled.wharf, when the streets ran up and down in waves, the cobbles bursting out of them, and walls of.became grim. I saw from her eyes the effort it was for her.."You can? Is it allowed?".They jolted on all the next day through a summer thundershower or two and carne at dusk to Kembermouth, a walled, prosperous port city. They left the carter to his master's business and walked down to find an inn near the docks. Dragonfly looked about at the sights of the city in a silence that might have been awe or disapproval or mere stolidity. "This is a nice little town," Ivory said, "but the only city in the world is Havnor." Terminal, pale against the black sky, still showed through the branches, then finally disappeared.,direction. An unexpected emptiness, raspberry panels with glittering stars, rows of doors. The.Although Otter had not thought the words, Anieb spoke with his voice, the same weak, dull voice:."I dislike goat cheese," Dulse said.."If you wish."Dulse had the big lore-book open on the table. He had been trying to reweave one of the Acastan Spells, much broken and made powerless by the Emanations of Fundaur centuries ago. He had just begun to get a sense of the missing word that might fill one of the gaps, he almost had it, and-"You might keep some goats," Silence said.."Obviously," he replied with a certain caution..you were walking again among familiar trees, oak and beech and ash, chestnut and walnut and.everything. . ."came to him with its easy, loose, majestic tread, and breathed into his open palm. All those that."That girl you liked, witch's Rose, she's tuning about with Labby, I hear. No doubt they'll come.One day in autumn he came back to the school. He went in by the garden door, which gives on the.more impressions. Occasionally, walking, I lost track of things, although I did not doze at all; I do.When it came to teaching what he knew, he was tireless, generous, and exacting. For the first.or bar not set off from the street. A few people were sitting there. I wanted to go inside and ask."I told him," Golden said, "that I had seen you, with a turn of your hand and a single word, change a wooden carving of a bird into a bird that flew up and sang. Pre seen you make a light glow in thin air. You didn't know I was watching. I've watched and said nothing for a long time. I didn't want to make too much of mere childish play. But I believe you have a gift, perhaps a great gift. When I told Master Hemlock what I'd seen you do, he agreed with me. He said that you may go study with him in South Port for a year, or perhaps longer." The Patterner's voice had grown rougher, and he suddenly brushed the little design of pebbles apart with the palm of his hand..corner for him. Let the traveler have a good bed for a night. Maybe he'd leave a copper or two."I'm Gift," she said, a bit flustered, but liking the fellow. "All right, then, Master Hawk. Put your horse up and see to him. There's the pump, there's plenty of hay. Come on in the house after. I can give you a bit of milk soup, and a penny will be more than enough, thank you." She didn't feel like calling him sir, as she always did the curer. This one had nothing of that lordly way about him. She hadn't seen a king when she first saw him, as with the other one..between sorcerers over work was nothing new and nothing to take on about. But San and his wife and.I will not be summoned." .apertures over the road, covered from time to time by the noiseless machines; there was not one.He knew now, from Elehal and others on Roke, what that wall was. It lay between the living and the.another witch or an ordinary woman. They do not often marry men, and if they do, they are likely.though it meant he would have his hands tied behind him and his mouth gagged and a leash buckled.It would be Berry at the door, though why he knocked she didn't know. "Come in, you fool!" she.always led them, sooner or later, out of the wood to the clearing by the Thwilburn and the Otter's.me -- aircraft, probably, because now and then they veered up or down, spiraling into space, so."Seems to be a hard place to find," Hound said..His voice had become very soft, very dark..Published by arrangement with Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc..word, the men told them they would be tortured and burned, at which the boy cried that if they.reader, child or adult, which gives even these dead things life-of a sort, for a while..and from a metal-framed slot, as from a mailbox, slipped a piece of shiny paper folded in two. I.where it's safe, and where the great robbers and killers would least look for it, since no one....years old. Celebrate it!".The wind rattled the dry leaves on the scrub-oak bushes. The sun was behind the hill, and clouds were coming over in a low, grey mass.."What will you have us call you?".Thirst: and with it pain. Thirst, and the sound of water running..They were not far inside the

Grove, and still beside the stream, when Irian stopped, turned aside. The new student cleaned out the henhouse and hoed the bean-patch, learned the meaning of the Glosses of Danemer and the Arcana of the Enlades, and kept his mouth closed. He listened. He heard what Dulse said; sometimes he heard what Dulse thought. He did what Dulse wanted and what Dulse did not know he wanted. His gift was far beyond Dulse's guidance, yet he had been right to come to Re Albi, and they both knew it. the streams at Iria, and she had hated the sea, heaving grey and cold, but this quick water. The slave stood by, motionless. All the people who worked in the heat and fumes of the roaster tower were naked or wore only breechclout and moccasins. Otter glanced again at the slave, thinking by his height he was a child, and then saw the small breasts. It was a woman. She was bald. Her joints were swollen knobs in her bone-thin limbs. She looked up once at Otter, moving her eyes only. She spat into the fire, wiped her sore mouth with her hand, and stood motionless again. "I don't care what's "allowed", he said, with a frown she had never seen on his face. The Archmage himself said, Rules are made to be broken. Injustice makes the rules, and courage breaks them. I have the courage, if you do!" always followed his own bent, and too young to believe that anything he did could kill him..and soul: the fire, a greater fire than that, the flight, the flight burning - Kings, lords, and Islemen charged with defending the islands of the Archipelago came to rely. staff in the other, snarling when he missed his footing on the rocks. He sat down on the near bank. change being. But this was different, this slow enlargement. I am vastening, he thought..first sign of Otter's gift, when he was two or three years old, was his ability to go straight to. TERMINAL PARK..stampeding cattle, setting fires, and destroying farms all through the western isles. Somewhere. the children, and jugglers and puppeteers, some of them hired and some of them coming by to pick. "Ach, it's a witch's den," Crow said, at the whiff of herbs and aromatic smoke, and he stepped. "Is it in the earth?" in spells of protection, endurance, peace. They saw the Rule of Roke established, though never so. now, dragging the right leg, which would not bear his weight. He went forward. He smelled the wind. betrayed..nothing of these matters and have nothing to do with them..oarmaster, after asking several questions of the master and Medra, began to roar at the slaves and. "Don't be afraid," Gelluk said, his voice strong and musical over the panting gasp of the huge bellows and the steady roar of the fire. "Come, come see how he flies in the air, making himself pure, making his subjects pure!" He drew Otter to the edge of the roasting pit. His eyes shone in the flare and dazzle of the flames. "Evil spirits that work for the King become clean," he said, his lips close to Otter's ear. "As they slaver, the dross and stains flow out of them. Illness and impurities fester and run free from their sores. And then when they're burned clean at last they can fly up, fly up into the Courts of the King. Come along, come along, up into his tower, where the dark night brings forth the moon!" wizards were as crude and false as Losen's title and rule. When he was one with the true element. The people of the Archipelago speak Hardic. There are as many dialects as there are islands, but. wizard, and so, thinking to earn her porridge, she did her best to repair the Otter's House. Once instead of smiling and agreeing, she said, "It's lovely to have him back, but" and Golden stopped hearing. Mothers were born to worry about their children, and women were born never to be content. There was no reason why he should listen to the litany of anxieties by which Tuly hauled herself through life. Of course she thought a merchant's life wasn't good enough for the boy. She'd have thought being King in Havnor wasn't good enough for him. Under Roke's steadily growing influence, wizardry was shaped into a coherent body of knowledge, its use increasingly controlled by moral and political purpose. Wizards trained at the school went to other islands of the Archipelago to work against warlords, pirates, and feuding nobles, preventing raids and forays, imposing penalties and settlements, enforcing boundaries, and protecting individuals, farms, towns, cities, and shipping, until social order was re-established. In the early years they were sent to enforce peace; increasingly they were called on to maintain it. While the throne in Havnor remained empty, for over two hundred years Roke School served effectively as the central government of the Archipelago.. "Study with Master Hemlock?" said Diamond, his voice up half an octave..they all had. Evidently, it was the same with brit..Licky had told him that it was the fumes of the metal rising from heated ore that sickened and killed the people who worked in the tower. Otter had never entered it nor seen Licky enter it. He had come close enough to know that it was surrounded by prisoning spells that would sting and bewilder and entangle a slave trying to escape. Now he felt those spells like strands of cobweb, ropes of dark mist, giving way to the wizard who had made them..need to be. Well, send me a student now and then. Roke needs Gontish wizardry. I think we're. They both came to her. "The Master Changer of Roke: Irian of Way," said the Doorkeeper..shrugged arthritically into his heavy cloak, took up his staff, told the fire to go out, and left..Golden reassured him that the wizard had actually said so, though of course what kind or a gift remained to be seen. The boy's modesty was a great relief to him..The dragons offered no threat during this period, and the Kargs had withdrawn into their own. stupidity of mind that follows such a struggle, we began to think that it wasn't a good thing to. The Kargs are deeply resistant to writing of any kind, considering it to be sorcerous and wicked. They keep complex accounts and records in weavings of different colors and weights of yarn, and are expert mathematicians, using base twelve; but only since the Godkings came to power have they employed any kind of symbolic writing, and that sparingly. Bureaucrats and tradesmen of the Empire adapted the Hardic runes to Kargish, with some simplifications and additions, for purposes of business and diplomacy. But Kargish priests never learn writing; and many Kargs still write every Hardic rune with a light stroke through it, to cancel out the sorcery that lurks in it..her and bring them back to Roke when he returned. So they set off northeast across the Inmost Sea. man. He'll do no harm while I'm with you." Again he paused. All at once he looked straight at Otter, who froze in terror thinking the wizard had caught him watching his mind. Gelluk stared at him a while with that curious half-keen, half-unseeing gaze, smiling. "Little Medra!" he said, as if just discovering he was there. He patted Otter's shoulder. "I know you have the gift of finding what's hidden. Quite a great gift, were it suitably trained. Have no fear, my son. I know why you led my servants only to the little lode, playing and delaying. But now that I've come, you

serve me, and have nothing to be afraid of. And there's no use trying to conceal anything from me, is there? The wise child loves his father and obeys him, and the father rewards him as he deserves." He leaned very close, as he liked to do, and said gently, confidentially, "I'm sure you can find the great lode." of Havnor had been burnt to the ground. The king's wizards had spell-caught and killed several. shook. It got dark for a fraction of a second, something beneath us gave a deep sigh, like a metal. He did not forgive his son. It would have made a happy ending, but he would not have it. To leave so, without a word, on his nameday night, to go off with the witch-girl, leaving all the honest work undone, to be a vagrant musician, a harper twanging and singing and grinning for pennies -- there was nothing but shame and pain and anger in it for Golden. So he had his tragedy.

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