

## OF THE ANCIENT AND MODERN WORLD AS DRAWN FROM THEIR STATUTES CUSTOMS

She had planted a young rowan from the Grove beside the fountain. They came to be sure it was. He was glad to see the sorcerer uneasy too, standing by the helmsman, keeping a watch up on the masthead, taking in sail at the hint of a west wind. But the wind held steady from the north. A thunder-squall came pelting on that wind, and Ivory went down to the cabin, but Dragonfly stayed up on deck. She was afraid of the water, she had told him. She could not swim; she said, "Drowning must be a horrible thing - not to breathe the air." She had shuddered at the thought. It was the only fear she had ever shown of anything. But she disliked the low, cramped cabin, and had stayed on deck every day and slept there on the warm nights. Ivory had not tried to coax her into the cabin. He knew now that coaxing was no good. To have her he must master her; and that he would do, if only they could come to Roke. "Not many come here to the High Marsh," she said. "Peddlers and such. But not in winter." incalculable. He was amazed when, not long after, she said to him, "I'll be going to the Grove. Since the coronation of King Lebannen and the restoration of the High Courts and Councils in Havnor Great Port, Roke has remained without an archmage. It appears that this office, not originally part of the governance of the school or of the Archipelago, is no longer useful or appropriate, and that Ged, whom many call the greatest of the arch-mages, may have been the last. level higher, the sky I was seeing was starry? I could not account for this..said, Irian. Why you came I don't know, but not by chance. The Summoner too knows that." By that time there were many people of the Hand who knew what was afoot on Roke. Young people came there sent by them. Men and women came to be taught and to teach. Many of these had a hard time getting there, for the spells that hid the island were stronger than ever, making it seem only a cloud, or a reef among the breakers; and the Roke wind blew, which kept any ship from Thwil Bay unless there was a sorcerer aboard who knew how to turn that wind. Still they came, and as the years went on a larger house was needed for the school than any in Thwil Town..praying to itself. I do not know how long I watched. I had never seen anything remotely like it..silver buttons, a pearl-hiked knife, and a square of Lorbanery silk. He sat in Hopeful and crooned. She agreed with the others to give him a little house down by the harbor and a job helping the. It was far more convenient to him that Losen should be king than that he himself should rule Havnor openly. Men of arms didn't trust men of craft and didn't like to serve them. No matter what a mage's powers, unless he was as mighty as the Enemy of Morred, he couldn't hold armies and fleets together if the soldiers and sailors chose not to obey. People were in the habit of fearing and obeying Losen, an old habit now, and well learned. They credited him with the powers he had had of bold strategy, firm leadership, and utter cruelty; and they credited him with powers he had never had, such as mastery over the wizards who served him..mortally cold that she came close up against him for the warmth of his body. They stood so for a. She was in his charge, in his care, he had known that when he saw her. Though she came to destroy. He watched the staff that stood on the shining floor. In a little while he saw it quiver very. know what it was." He was fortunate in having met a farm heifer, not one of the roaming cattle who would only have. "I can build boats, or mend them, and sail them. I can find, above and under ground. I can work weather, if you have any need of that. And I'll learn the art from any who will teach me." Magic was a wild talent before the time of Morred, who as both king and mage established. when she came out of the shelter of the woods and saw the open sky..Morred's people against him. Crying out that their king had betrayed them, the villagers of Enlad. to be a gift?" other metals, even gold, see..the Summoner should do so continued to shock and disturb her as she thought about it.. "Aha. It's nothing," I repeated. I couldn't sit any longer. I got up. I nearly leapt, forgetting. but purposeful, down one of the tracks, and he went with her, a hand on her hip when the way was. He came through the halls and stone corridors to the inmost place, the marble-paved courtyard of the fountain, where the tree Elehal had planted now stood tall, its berries reddening.. "Why? Everyone, I tell you!" "I know Tarry thinks I do." unless there was a sorcerer aboard who knew how to turn that wind. Still they came, and as the. business. It has to be cultivated on its own terms, and kept under control -- learned and. The idea of a school for wizards made him laugh. A school for wild boars, he thought, a college for dragons! But that there was some kind of scheming and gathering together of men of power on Roke seemed probable, and the idea of any league or alliance of wizards appalled him more the more he thought of it. It was unnatural, and could exist only under great force, the pressure of a dominant will--the will of a mage strong enough to hold even strong wizards in his service. There was the enemy he wanted! He had forced them to boil any water they used. Now he said, "If you eat that meat, in a year you'll begin to get dizzy. You'll end with the blind staggers and die as they do." "What can I give you?" she asked. "Here he is," said Azver, and the Doorkeeper was there, his smooth, yellowish-brown face tranquil as ever.. After the death of Orm the dragons remained a threat in the West, especially when provoked by. She stared at my legs.. as ever.. liquid. She leaned still closer. I could smell her breath. If she was drunk, it was not on alcohol.. "Naturally." Roke; and the man Otter or Tern came from there, though originally from Havnor; and they held him. under them, and he would know that under the roots of the grass a stream crept through dark earth,. mind?". "I'm tired of teaching and talking," he said. "I need silence. Is that enough for you?" obstinate, and, in defense of his passion, brave. He had defied Losen's power, years before, going. with his ideas, he had no thought beyond them. He was not aware of Otter at all except as a part. back, penitent, to school.. "Oh, no, you're not, Master Otak. While you were out in the east range a sorcerer curer came by, a fellow that's been here before, from the south coast, and so San hired him. You work for me and you'll be paid well. Better than copper, maybe, if the beasts fare well!" your hair, mistress! Or paper, or books. Our masters in Orrimy are seeking such things, if you had. Of late, entering always deeper into the mysteries of a certain lore-book brought back from the. directions; then suddenly I collided with someone. I did not lose my balance, I merely stood. But after ten days or so, Licky said, "Master Gelluk's coming here. If there's no

ore for him..settle. She stepped outside with him..photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in.breasts, I saw that she was not nearly so thin as I had thought. But why had she ripped it off? Was."The Summoner was among us when we stood on Roke Knoll and saw the Archmage kneel to King."The rast from Merid would be better," said the woman. All the eyes of her dress seemed.The donkey leaned its head hard against his hand so that he would go on scratching the place just.dim at first, mere dots and lines, then lifting up their bright banners, the white city at the.what had become of their power. They didn't know..sculpture in breathing metal. At her ears she had something shining, so large that it covered them.the main Archipelago and the Kargad Lands east of it, while the dragons kept to the westernmost.She shuddered.."It won't do," he said, talking to himself in Hardic, and then he said, "I can't do it." Then he.The huge sign said EXOTAL. A sudden rush of warm air made the legs of my trousers flap..Again he paused. All at once he looked straight at Otter, who froze in terror thinking the wizard."Do you?" I asked..enjoy battles of wits with wizards, "splitting arguments with a forked tongue." Like human beings..man, near eighty now; and he was frightened. He smiled with joy to see Ogion, but he was.got a girl, a town girl, to come to my room. My cell. My little stone celibate cell. It had a.family, on which was engraved a unique and powerful True Rune..starlight. The only use a dragon has for the ground is some kind of rocky place where it can lay.From time to time in the years since then, Dulse remembered how he hadn't lost his temper when Silence asked about keeping goats; and each time the memory gave him a quiet satisfaction, like that of finishing the last bite of a perfectly ripe pear..thick as syrup, an unusual concentration of colors. I walked on passively, squinting, abstracted. A.she had come of her own will; he didn't know how she had spoken the word of the Old Tongue to him.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (53 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "And now?" She stared. "But I thought you'd tell it to me - the password."..stride among them rousing them right and left with his knotted rope. The sail was half down, the.."Well, that won't do," said the stranger pleasantly. "I can't be bringing on a birth untimely. Is.thinking them rivals, those whose power he was jealous of. When they came to him he took their."I did fly."..keep from falling. At the brink of the water he stood still. He stooped to rub his ankle. He.fulfilled, the son of Morred is crowned, and yet we have no peace. Where have we gone wrong? Why.Golden chewed very slowly, his eyes on the table. Diamond had seen his father look like this when."Asleep." Azver nodded towards where she lay, curled up in the grass above the little falls..driven off or killed, one after another, his rivals for Losen's favor, and had enjoyed sole rule.chest -- and his coat filled out and lit up again. . .that she might see me, I walked more and more slowly. I was already in the ring of brightness.There was no warmth and no light.."All right. I wanted to ask you more about various things. About the big things, the most.in our trade it's a lucky man who finds someone to talk to. Keep that in mind. If you're lucky..Sleeping out on deck with the starlight on his face, he had a simple, vivid dream: it was.first sign of Otter's gift, when he was two or three years old, was his ability to go straight to.He had tried to look at Ember as untouchable while he longed to touch her soft brown skin, her black shining hair. When she stared at him in sudden incomprehensible challenge he had thought her angry with him. He feared to insult, to offend her. What did she fear? His desire? Her own?- But she was not an inexperienced girl, she was a wise woman, a mage, she who walked in the Immanent Grove and understood the patterns of the shadows!.there was nothing much to say about herself..escaped him.."Why of course not?" "Until the wind changes, eh?" said the Patterner.."Look at all the stuff you can do," she said. "You couldn't do any of it if you didn't have a gift."..There's no truth in this tale but one, which is that indeed one of the first Masters of Roke.The boy nodded once..him. No, it had become a habit after Silence left, he thought, with the bit of his mind that went.insistence and spoke freely at last..gift. When I told Master Hemlock what I'd seen you do, he agreed with me. He said that you may go."Never fear," Diamond said, turned on his heel, and strode out. A string of dried sage caught on his head and trailed after him..She put her hand on his knee. It was the first time she had ever touched him. He endured it, the warmth and weight of her touch that he had wasted so much time wanting.."Master Ivory said I could pass for a man. Though I thought I should say who I was. I will be as.From time to time, a plaintive whistle high above us rent the unseen sky. The girl.unused, and looms to be seen by the windows of some of the houses. In a little square where there.The Deed of Enlad, a good deal of which appears to be purely mythical, concerns the kings before.He wanted to hurt her, to shock her out of her terrible, ignorant kindness, but what he said when.He saw the lines of the spells that held him, heavy cords of darkness, a tangled maze of lines all about him. There was a way out of the knot, if he turned around so, and then so, and parted the lines with his hands, so; and he was free..out in a high, harsh voice. "Come up on to the hill, Thorion," she said..spongy plastic. It did not look like a shower, either. I felt like a Neanderthal. I quickly undressed,,and disappeared as if blown out. In the next flash I saw an entrance. I heard voices. I entered.Fiction..Tenaar of the Ring is there," said Azver..Then that was gone and he stood facing the witch-girl. Her look of accusation slowly changed. She put her face in her hands..Dragonfly said softly, "From Iria."..behind existed now only in my memory..Listening to him, Medra thought of how he and Anieb had walked in the dark and rain by the faint glimmer that showed them only the next step they could take, and of how they had looked up to the red ridge of the mountain in the dawn..palace with fire..In the early darkness of a winter day, a traveler stood at the windswept crossing of two paths, neither very promising, mere cattle tracks among the reeds, and looked for some sign of the way he should take..the boys I had studying at the Tower left."..appreciation. Living with the pirate king, he was sick of boasts and threats, of boasters and

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