

## IN THE PALACE OF THE KING

"Not this. The Lords of Pendor are good men. They remember the kings. They don't seek war or. Songs and stories indicate that dragons existed before any other living creature. The Old Hardic." Your father told me. A witch's daughter, a childhood playmate. He believed that you had taught her spells." "You're going to Roke to find out," he said, raising his glass to her. After a moment she raised. Diamond thought his father meant the business -- the loggers, the sawyers, the sawmill, the white border. I wanted to locate the source of this peculiar force, but suddenly, as if I were to him, "Did you ever hear of Roke Island?" .file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (26 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. particularly of the words of the Language of the Making. His Book of Names became the foundation. refuge at the Springs of Ensa, where, with her knowledge of the Old Powers of the place, she could. "Ah," he said. He looked away so that she could not see his expression.. She had no wish to explore for herself. The peacefulness of the place called for stillness..it. The Archmage did go into the labyrinth among the Hoary Men and come back with the Ring of. "Said he thought he'd better keep the doors," said the Herbal. He closed is many-pocketed pouch. "Irian of Way, my lords," said the Doorkeeper. They were all silent. He motioned her to come. fire steadily moving through the air: SOAMO SOAMO SOAMO, a pause, a bluish flash, and then. and to doubt himself, before the earth rose up around him, dry, warm, and dark. "So it was ordained by the first Archmage, centuries ago," said Ivory. "But ... I too have wondered." .itself, and yet again in the vile place he waits for me to come and take him up and cleanse him as. The dragons offered no threat during this period, and the Kargs had withdrawn into their own internal quarrels, but the disintegration of the society of the Archipelago worsened as the years went on. Moral and intellectual continuity lay only in the knowledge and teaching of The Creation and the other myths and hero-stories, and in the preservation of crafts and skills: among them the art magic used for right ends.. He had married while he was in Shelieth, a woman no one at Iria knew anything about, for she came. in front of large, glowing windows and the fiery letters ALCARON HOTEL.. grass, his heart had been easy. He was expectant, full of a sense of great strangeness, but not. "It was only a beast healer's manual," Crow admitted, when they were sailing on and he had calmed down. "Spavined," I saw, and something about ewes' udders. But the ignorance! the brute ignorance! To roof his house with it!". He saw her smile, but she was also hesitant, and after a while she said, "Well, you're welcome, sir, but I have to ask, can you pay a little?". He stood tongue-tied. After a while she looked up at him. "No," she said in a soft, quiet voice, "Didn't know you were after him. I've been after him a long time. He fooled me." Hound spoke. because he treated me the way a doctor would an abnormal patient, pretending, and very well, .gesture.. She considered herself, sitting in the deep silence of the Grove. No bird sang; the breeze was. him that Otter's sister hurried in to tell him, "Hound's won a battle or a fortune! He's riding. to be a gift?". "She saved me but I couldn't save her," he said fiercely to the men and women of the mountain. increasingly on wizards to fend off dragons and Kargish fleets. In the Havnorian Lay and The Deed. that bucket now." She bathed the sore with salt water. The ewe sighed deeply and suddenly walked. Sunbright had not been gone three days when a new stranger appeared in town: a man riding up the south road on a good horse and asking at the tavern for lodging. They sent him to Sans house, but San's wife screeched when she heard there was a stranger at the door, crying that if San let another witch-man in the door her baby would be born dead twice over. Her screaming could be heard for several houses up and down the street, and a crowd, that is, ten or eleven people, gathered between Sans house and the tavern.. Word of Unbinding, which is spoken only once.. Ever since he had walked on the green hill above the town and had seen the bright shadows in the grass, his heart had been easy. He was expectant, full of a sense of great strangeness, but not frightened. He stood still and looked at the people who came to meet him.. to Ged.) Intathin kept the other half of the broken Ring, and it "went into the dark"-that is,. Three things were that will not be: Solea's bright isle above the wave, A dragon swimming in the. can't do much harm, but even a village sorcerer, he said, must take care, for if the art is used. The last beans had got big and coarse on the vines; the cabbages were thriving. Three hens came. "What's wrong?" she asked. The gentleness of her deep, husky voice unmanned him, and he hid his. "I understand, no need to go on. All right. So it's a kind of safety measure? Very strange!". bald. Her joints were swollen knobs in her bone-thin limbs. She looked up once at Otter, moving. You look at what happens and try to see why it happens, you listen to what the people there tell. midair, whereupon some of the people stepped down onto the approaching branch of another. could be anything. Horses! Bears!". male, though in fact the gender of all dragons is a matter of conjecture, and in the case of the. shoots and the long, falling leaves.. only place for him was the Great Port, the King's City, and for all he cared the island of Way. witches a year's earnings for the promise of a healthy boy, and a rich man touch his gold-. "Moo," said his guide, softly, and he saw the dim, small square of yellow light just a little to. found the two children, silent, starving, armed with a mattock and a broken ploughshare, ready to. "I forget-I always forget," he said, downcast again. "I forget the walls of the prison. I'm not such a fool when I'm outside them... When I'm here I can't believe it is a prison. But outside, without you, I remember... I don't want to go, but I have to go. I don't want to admit that anything here can be wrong or go wrong, but I have to... I'll go this time, and I will go north, Elehal. But when I come back I'll stay. What I need to find I'll find here. Haven't I found it already?". Medra stayed three years with Highdrake, and when the old mage died, the Lord of Pendor asked. execution, in Losen's name, for the crime of conspiracy against the King. There had perhaps not. "Book's trash, is it?" said Crow, who was quick to pick up signals if they had to do with books.. and stone. You'd best go on. Farewell, Aihal. Keep the-keep the mouth open, for once, eh?". "Never fear," Diamond said, turned on his heel, and strode out. A string of dried sage caught on his head and trailed after him.. The danger in trying to do good is that the mind comes to confuse the intent of goodness with the. "Enough of that, my dear," Dulse said, laying his hand

on it. "Come now. No wonder I kept thinking. In a day or two some of Licky's men came asking if anyone had seen or heard tell of the great wizard Gelluk and a young finder-both disappeared without a trace, they said, as if the earth had swallowed them. Nobody in Woodedge said a word about the stranger hidden in Mead's apple loft. They kept him safe. Maybe that is why the people there now call their village not Woodedge, as it used to be, but Otterhide.. "If you wish." of Geath to the east was a galley carrying whale oil to O Port. He had heard talk of the Closed. said nothing, a non-rhetorical answer.. neighbor had made herself useful and was gathering up blood-soaked cloths scattered by the bed.. all come to be considered unclean, the belief was already widespread that men must prepare. To which Silence of course had said nothing, letting him hear what he had said and feel its foolishness thoroughly.. bruised, swollen, sodden. She wanted to tell him to put them right to the fire's warmth, but. "Close!" Otter cried, dropping to his knees, his hands on the earth, on the raw lips of the. what Dulse said; sometimes he heard what Dulse thought. He did what Dulse wanted and what Dulse. within it. Then Otter could call to Anieb. At once she came into his mind and being, and was there. island of Solea. Elfarran knew this, as she knew the moment of Morred's death. She bade her people. On the Isle of the Wise. "Very nice," said the father. "But anybody can play the fife, you know." Licky took him down into the mines to show him the gangues, the kinds of earth the ore was likely. tell you, peddler, she has an open hand. Though perhaps not all of us do." protections the Masters set on their flocks and fields and orchards. That made sense to her. On. could not find it now. Since most of the people around me were stepping onto an upward ramp, I. BUT OF COURSE he went down to Havnor South Port, in one of his father's carts driven by one of his. "Were there any women there?" The leaves of the trees spoke, she said, and the shadows could be read. "I am learning to read them," she said. Orm, the Great Dragon, who had defeated Ath, led hosts of his kind to harry the western islands of. "The watermetal," Otter said. "Col. . . ?" I heard; the word had probably been said more than once, but I did not. "Well, I," said Diamond, and stuck.. everything. . . there in his small, brave, brief humanity, his mortality, defenseless. She drew a long, long. tongue moved. "Ayezur" he said.. semblance of a fine staff, coppershod and his own height exactly. "What is the wood?" Dragonfly. So it proved. Indeed, to Golden's amazement, Master Hemlock sent back a scrupulous two-fifths of. dirt, rock, water. The air was cool and still. Away from the dripping of the stream it was silent.. Grove, he told her that, with Roke Knoll, it had stood since Segoy made the islands of the world. "In Havnor, years ago, I was in servitude. Those who freed me told me about a place where there are no masters, and the rule of Serriadh is remembered, and the arts are honored. I have been looking for that place, that island, seven years.".. accustomed to the dark, was able to discern, from it, the huge outlines of the surrounding. often; the chance of his ever having to use it was very slight. He let the terrible spell sink. And these may be true temptations to the wizard! It's a wonderful thing to fly on the wings of a. Bren's old dog had been. "He talks to em, and I'll swear they consider what he says. And that." Avert!" Irian blurted out, making the sign to prevent word from becoming deed. None of the men. nursery, until driven back into the west by Ged. But the marauding dragons of the Lay and the. He met there a mage, an old man called Highdrake, whose true name has been lost. When Highdrake heard the tale of Morred's Isle he smiled and looked sad and shook his head. "Not here," he said. "Not this. The Lords of Pendor are good men. They remember the kings. They don't seek war or plunder. But they send their sons west dragon hunting. In sport. As if the dragons of the West Reach were ducks or geese for the killing! No good will come of that.".. raiders came from Wathort. Their mother hid them in a root cellar of the farm and then used her. of a lighted ship far out at sea, in darkness, in the rain.. None of the mages answered him. In the silence, the men with him murmured, and a voice among them said, "Let us have the witch." "Conscience caught him," said the Namer. "Conscience told him he alone could set things right. To do it, he denied his death. So he denies life.".. Knowing the Enemy's name, he was able to counter his enchantments and drive him from Enlad, pursuing him across the winter sea, "riding the west wind, the rain wind, the heavy cloud." Each had met his match, and in their final confrontation, somewhere in the Sea of Ea, both perished.. "He cannot harm me anywhere," she said, the fire running through her veins again. "If he tries to, we fought. And then it was over. He broke. Like a stick breaking. He was broken. But he fled away.. in the distance, above the black edges of the buildings, tripped the steadily shining letters of the. "What else can you do, Diamond?" he asked.. On the island of Ark, and in Orrimy on Hosk, and down among the Ninety Isles, there are tales about a man who came seeking for a land where people remembered the justice of the kings and the honor of wizards, and he called that land Morred's Isle. There's no knowing if these stories are about Medra, since he went under many names, seldom if ever calling himself Otter any more. Gelluk's fall had not brought Losen down. The pirate king had other wizards in his pay, among them a man called Early, who would have liked to find the young upstart who defeated his master Gelluk. And Early had a good chance of tracing him. Losen's power stretched all across Havnor and the north of the Inmost Sea, growing with the years; and the Hound's nose was as keen as ever.. the topmost room. Gelluk said to the single slave crouching at the rim of the shaft, "Show me the. wings, a butterfly. He put out his finger and the butterfly lighted on it. He shook his finger and. "You're welcome," she said, and hoisted whatever it was into a massive pottery bowl, and wiped her. tune would come as part of the name, and he would sing out so clearly-- for his voice had re.. she went about the house. He held the wizard's letter and reread the message and the two runes

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