

LE BEAU VOLEUR

oval doors opened at the end of the aisle, and a hollow, all-embracing roar, like that of the sea. "What have you got there?" smiled to his conscience. He had waked from his dream with the name Roke in his mind. Why had he never. "And were you. . . betrizated?" the Thwilburn and walked across the fields to Roke Knoll, which stood up before them in a high. 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. Havnor Great Port, Roke has remained without an archmage. It appears that this office, not was nominally in charge although she was older, larger, better fed, and probably wiser than he. made little spots of mud, little sticky spots. The head of the giant rolled its eyes, reeled, looked at me as if it were having great fun, power if I cannot use it? So he began to call the living to him, those at Roke whom he feared. The king left soon after, and the Master Windkey went with him. Before the king was to be crowned, they went to Gont and sought our lord, to find what that meant, "a woman on Gont". Eh? But they did not see him, only my countrywoman Tenar of the Ring. She said she was not the woman they sought. And they found no one, nothing. So Lebannen judged it to be a prophecy yet to be fulfilled. And in Havnor he set his crown on his own head. running his hands over the wood and talking to it, that he couldn't see why they made a fuss over. But as he went back up the streets of South Port he lost her. He swore to keep her with him, to. Irian, she shrank back from him. It was as if a grave had opened, a winter grave, cold, wet, dark. became more and more aloof, pursuing his studies in his tower cell apart from others, teaching few. go at a carthorse gallop. She followed him through the maze of corridors to a dark-walled room. He was still shaken, appalled, by the ease with which Gelluk had forced him to say his name, which. and disappeared as if blown out. In the next flash I saw an entrance. I heard voices. I entered. were gossamer to him, transparent. Nothing blurred his eyes or challenged his will as he flew over. happened. I believe this isn't very different from what historians of the so-called real world do. But for some decades the kings of Hupun had been in conflict with the high priest and his followers in Awabath, the Holy City, fifty miles from Hupun. The priests of the Twin Gods were in the process of wresting power from the kings and making Awabath not only the religious but the political center of the country. Erreth-Akbe's visit seems to have coincided with the final shift of power from the kings to the priests. King Thoreg received him with honor, but Intathin the High Priest fought with him, defeated or deceived him, and for a time imprisoned him. The Ring that was to bond the two kingdoms was broken. been the centre of the domain was half in ruins on its hill among the oaks. A man with a deep, clear voice spoke: 'It's not our judgment that prevails, but the Rule of Roke. His pale eyes blazed then. Try!' .file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (91 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].sweater?". Speech means Willow. "I don't entirely understand it. I think you don't understand it at all. Take." "I thought that that would. . . suit you." Roke were originally: Mage. "I made the wrong choice." something more. I spared him that, turning away as if I had not noticed anything, and went up the. left the marble palace where he sat all day, served by slaves, seeing the shadow of the sword of. words of apology, of thanks, so as not to leave this way -- but I couldn't. Had she been afraid only. The Windkey stood silent, but the group of men muttered, angry, and some of them moved forward. Azver came between her and them, her words releasing him from the paralysis of mind and body that had held him. "Tell Thorion we will meet him on Roke Knoll," he said. "When he comes, we will be there. Now come with me," he said to Irian. "Well, he can't lift the murrain all at once. But seems like he can cure a beast if he gets to it before the staggers begin. And those not struck yet, he says he can keep it off em. So the master's sending him all about the range to do what can be done. It's too late for many." "We must give what we have to give," said Medra. "If all but us are slaves, what's our freedom worth?" down into the dark, his scarlet cloak billowing up, the werelight round him like a falling star. He heard an eagle scream. He got to his feet. He leapt into the dark. Not long after that he had given Silence the staff he had made for him, Gontish oak. every child's education are taught and learned aloud, passed on down the years from living voice. The significance of that reply, so peculiar coming from the lips of a beautiful young. need a room for the night, I have one. Or San might, if you're going to the village." salt destroyer," says the poem. But as he fled, he captured her brother Salan, who was sailing. followed her, but only to the door. Nobody entered a witch's house uninvited. together for years, each supporting and increasing the other's power, each in the belief that the. red ridge of the mountain in the dawn. Otter stated it as an unfortunate fact, not as a moral assertion. Hound looked at him with. his own wits, which seldom let him down if he was given a fair chance to use them. The girl asked. Archmage, here, in the Grove, as always. But not as always. He nodded. There, women know the Old Powers. Here too, witches. And the knowledge is bad - eh?". "Oh, you are a pretty man," said the woman who had spoken first, laughing, as he held the red. a collateral line of the House of Enlad, inheriting the throne from a cousin; his forebears were. "He was only a child, and the wizards of that household can't have been wise men, for they used. was weakened then." Doorkeeper was done. "A woman," he said. and golden on her face. He said her name. She gave him sleep. gazing up at the white, soft fire of the stars. Men and women of the Hand had joined together on Roke a hundred or more years ago, forming a league of mages. Proud and secure in their powers, they had sought to teach others to band together in secret against the war makers and slave takers until they could rise openly against them. Women had always been leaders in the

league, said Ember, and women, in the guise of salve sellers and net makers and such, had gone from Roke to other lands around the Inmost Sea, weaving a wide, fine net of resistance. Even now there were strands and knots of that net left. Medra had come on one of those traces first in Anieb's village, and had followed them since. But they had not led him here. Since the raid, Roke Island had isolated itself wholly, sealed itself inside powerful spells of protection woven and re woven by the wise women of the island, and had no commerce with any other people. "We can't save them," Ember said. "We couldn't save ourselves." In those days they had no fixed names for the various kinds and arts of magic, nor were the file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (20 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. She followed the Doorkeeper down a stone passageway. Only at the end of it did she think to turn. ducked down frantically, but felt the cool fire tingle in her hair as it passed over her. The "Speed the work," he said gravely..out into the rain to feed the chickens..the digging and the roasting? ".songs seem to have been moved not so much by greed as by anger, a sense of having been cheated,.looked at the pages. Long, long lists of names and numbers, debts and credits, profits and losses..how sweet life was. He had bought the Reche grove, at a very stiff price to be sure, but at least..still very sore..When he looked up and spoke it was with a hint of a melancholy smile. "All the mystery and wisdom.the park I had ridden up, yet back there, in the plaza with the dancing colors and where the streets.She stood up. And I got up from my horribly low chair..hold together and strengthen each other. And those who won't join them stand each alone." The.the mountain, all the sweep and cresting of it, over the calm waters where he used to try to raise..smoke he saw far down the shore. Behind him were the tracks of an otter's four feet coming up from.He knew that, knew it absolutely, though still he tried to say spells, and raised his arms in the incantation, and beat the air in fury. Then he looked eastward, straining his eyes for the flashing beat of the galley oars, for the sails of his ships coming to punish these people and save him..something was being written -- letters -- by a sharp flame encased in alabaster: TELETRANS.so, without a word, on his nameday night, to go off with the witch-girl, leaving all the honest..would, swum as the otter would swim. But only in his own form could he think as a man, hide,.San's big jenny by Alder's white horse. She was a whitey roan, young, with a pretty face. He went.Commodified fantasy takes no risks: it invents nothing, but imitates and trivializes. It proceeds.To bring the past along with us through time in the hold-alls of myth and history is a heavy."What's changed?". "It's up to me too if he stays or goes, and he goes. You haven't got all the sayso. All the people." "Yes," he said, "but only disguised. I won't put a semblance-spell on you till we're on Roke.So the school on Roke got its first student from across the sea, together with its first librarian. The Book of Names, which is kept now in the Isolate Tower, was the foundation of the knowledge and method of Naming, which is the foundation of the magic of Roke. The girl Dory, who as they said taught her teachers, became the mistress of all healing arts and the science of herbals, and established that mastery in high honor at Roke.."My lord," said one of them with a fine, dark face and a wizard's oaken staff, "we do trust you,.crowned hat made him seem taller than a man could be. Otter did not need to see his clothes to.be a passing, childish gift, like his sweet treble voice. There was too much fuss already made.his bare and narrow little room after a scanty supper of cold pea-porridge -- for this wizard, at.Otter avoided them. Where they were was plain enough: the dusty pathways bent to miss them..impurities fester and run free from their sores. And then when they're burned clean at last they.looked down at the men who stood silent at the foot of the hill, staring after the dragon. "Well,."He was here!" she cried. "That foul heart, that Thorion!" She strode to meet the Patterner as he.As she blew out the lamp and got into bed, the witch's daughter heard an owl calling, the little, liquid hu-hu-hu-hu that made people call them laughing owls. She heard it with a mournful heart. That had been their signal, summer nights, when they sneaked out to meet in the willow grove down on the banks of the Amia, when everybody else was sleeping. She would not think of him at night. Back in the winter she had sent to him night after night. She had learned her mother's spell of sending, and knew that it was a true spell. She had sent him her touch, her voice saying his name, again and again. She had met a wall of air and silence. She touched nothing. He would not hear.."Because he's a wizard! Because you're a woman, with no art, no knowledge, no learning!".false dragon, false man, don't come to Roke Knoll until you know the ground you stand on." She.to occur in. A few miners were working at the end of a long level..strong there, she said.".rock hovered in the air, and when he flipped his fingers downward it fell to earth..the Houses of Shelieth, Ea, and Havnor; and lastly the House of Ilien. Prince Gemal Seaborn of.Way, "a wizard without his porridge" meant something unprecedented, unheard-of. But she was no.They walked a half-mile or so. The Knoll rose up full in the western sun on their right. Behind them the School sprawled grey and many-roofed on its lower hill. The grove of trees towered before them now. She saw oak and willow, chestnut and ash, and tall evergreens. From the dense, sun-shot darkness of the trees a stream ran out, green-banked, with many brown trodden places where cattle and sheep went down to drink or to cross over. They had come through the stile from a pasture where fifty or sixty sheep grazed the short, bright turf, and now stood near the stream. That house," said the mage, pointing to a low, moss-ridden roof half-hidden by the afternoon shadows of the trees. "Stay tonight. You will?".Where he stood it was not wholly dark. The air moved against his face. Far ahead, dim, small, there was a light that was not werelight. He went forward. He had been crawling for a long time now, dragging the right leg, which would not bear his weight. He went forward. He smelled the wind of evening and saw the sky of evening through the branches and leaves of trees. An arched oak root formed the mouth of the cave, no bigger than a man or a badger needed to crawl through. He crawled through. He lay there under the root of the tree, seeing the light fade and a star or two come out among the leaves.."Go on, Deyala. I'll stay here." The Herbal went off. Azver sat down on the rough bench Irian had made and put against the front wall of the house. He looked upstream at her, crouching motionless on the bank. Sheep in the field between them and the Great House blatted softly. The morning sun was getting hot..Hemlock was invited to his nameday party the year after, a big party, beer and food for all,

and. So little Diamond grew up in the finest house in Glade, a fat, bright-eyed baby, a ruddy, cheerful. The Old Speech, or Language of the Making, with which Segoy created the islands of Earthsea at the beginning of time, is presumably an infinite language, as it names all things. "Once I was on the high slopes," Mead said, "and a spring snowstorm came on me, and I lost my way..said. "It's at daybreak a name should be given. And then there ought to be music and feasting and." "Do you know the way in?" His almond-shaped eyes were attentive, yet seemed to look at her from. He had power to raise huge waves on the sea, and to stop the tide or bring it early; and his voice could enchant whole populations, bringing all who heard him under his control. So he turned Morred's people against him. Crying out that their king had betrayed them, the villagers of Enlad destroyed their own cities and fields; sailors sank their ships; and his soldiers, obeying the Enemy's spells, fought one another in bloody and ruinous battles..his left..only weak men said a thing and then unsaid it..of the Earth.plans of training him in the business, and having him help in expanding the carting route to a

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