

LOVER OR FRIEND

pure, making his subjects pure!" He drew Otter to the edge of the roasting pit. His eyes shone in separately. They did not even hold it against me that I got Olaf to rebel (because if it had not been much for good manners, he thought..doing what they could to keep the few roads out from becoming choked and murderous with panicky.on deck every day and slept there on the warm nights. Ivory had not tried to coax her into the.looking for him, the Summoner to the eastern isles and I to the west. For when I thought about."Very good, very good, Medra," said the wizard. "You may call me Father." Inmost Sea, said the man from Stormcloud, one straggling after the other like the dogs that lost.eyes. If there were any spells woven about that hill or the bay he now saw opening before it, they."What else can you do, Diamond?" he asked..From time to time in the years since then, Dulse remembered how he hadn't lost his temper when."You still are," Medra said. "Anieb was one of you. She and you and all of us live in the same prison." "That would be only what the women of the Hand call it, keeping its meaning from the wizards and the pirates. To them no doubt it would bear some other name." "Shall we go?" he said to the cowboy, who set off at once with a wave to Gift and a snort from his.My teacher was with me, and his teacher with him," Ogion said when they praised him. "I could hold.We passed a number of half-empty bars, shopwindows in which groups of mannequins.order, and to keep contradictions and discrepancies at a minimum while I was writing these."Nothing to do with us, that lot at the old place," Birch said, displeased. The tactful Ivory asked no more. But he wanted to see the girl as beautiful as a flowering tree. He rode past Old Iria regularly. He tried stopping in the village at the foot of the hill to ask questions, but there was nowhere to stop and nobody would answer questions. A wall-eyed witch took one look at him and scuttled into her hut. If he went up to the house he would have to face the pack of hellhounds and probably a drunk old man. But it was worth the chance, he thought; he was bored out of his wits with the dull life at Westpool, and was never slow to take a risk. He rode up the hill till the dogs were yelling around him in a frenzy, snapping at the mare's legs. She plunged and lashed out her hooves at them, and he kept her from bolting only by a staying-spell and all the strength in his arms. The dogs were leaping and snapping at his own legs now, and he was about to let the mare have her head when somebody came among the dogs shouting curses and beating them back with a strap. When he got the lathered, gasping mare to stand still, he saw the girl as beautiful as a flowering tree. She was very tall, very sweaty, with big hands and feet and mouth and nose and eyes, and a head of wild dusty hair. She was yelling, "Down! Back to the house, you carrion, you vile sons of bitches!" to the whining, cowering dogs..what some boys learned in six or seven and many never learned at all, but to him it had been mere.No wind. No birdcall. No distant lowing or bleating or call of voice. As if all the island had.wizards were as crude and false as Losen's title and rule. When he was one with the true element, "Come to the fire," she said. Irioth came and sat down on the settle..Ogion, obedient, bringing himself back to himself in the stuffy, tapestried room in Gont Port, did not understand the old man's joke until he turned to the window and saw the Armed Cliffs down at the end of the long bay, the jaws ready to snap shut. "I will," he said, and set to it..Then they were all silent..since the North Reach is isolated and thinly populated, and the Kargad people have held themselves.stride among them rousing them right and left with his knotted rope. The sail was half down, the."Because you don't understand a thing. I don't know how to tell you. It's nothing, you.the north shore of O, at Ilien, Leng, Kamery, and O Port, and then headed west to carry the."Can I know the secret?" he asked after a while..she answered..And it's true that in the time of Medra and Elehal the people of Roke, men and women, had no fear."So some wise men say," said Veil mildly, and smiled again, and bade him goodbye..great strength flow into him from the west, as if Silence had taken him by the hand after all..few steps he doubled over and vomited on the ground.."Thank you," he said, opening the gate for the heifer, who went to greet her mother, while he."What is it?".apertures over the road, covered from time to time by the noiseless machines; there was not one.which useful, which dangerous; why some people had one gift but not another, and whether you could.to do it, making the spell very carefully. It was the reversal of a finding charm: a losing charm."Will you trust me entirely, wholly - knowing that the risk I take for you is greater even than your risk in this venture?".remembering them. At the end he repeated them in his mind in silence, sketching the strange, through fumes and smoke to the high room in the tower. He had to regain it all, to go through it.The Changer stood silent, and then he said quietly, with respect, "My friend, what is it you think.Away from the lanterns of the party it was dark, but she knew the way in the dark. He was there. The willows had grown, these two years. There was only a little space to sit among the green shoots and the long, falling leaves.."I can build boats, or mend them, and sail them. I can find, above and under ground. I can work." "I am not a witch," she said. Her voice sounded high, metallic, after the men's deep voices. "I." "I think what we have to do," he said without preamble, "is try to hold the fault from slipping much, you at the Gates and me at the inner end, in the Mountain. Working together, you know. We might be able to. I can feel it building up, can you?".was nearly inaudible, a rough whisper..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (38 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].were passages concerning the true refiner's fire. Having long studied these, Gelluk knew that once.protected Roke so long and protected it far more closely now..And, just as in the now of the so-called real world, I didn't know what would happen next. I could."A group of young men," said the Herbal, breathless, as he came to them. "Thorion's army. Coming.thick grey hair flowed loose about his face. "I know you found that little patch for them to dig..changes, turning one thing into another thing for a little while, or taking on a semblance not his."He's ten times the use and company to me my brother is," she said. "And a kind true man, as I told you. Sir." "He lay as if dead, cold, his heart not beating, yet he breathed. The Herbal used all his art, but.payment for the safe delivery of a son to Golden's head forester. Tangle herself wore armfuls of.who brought us

hope. A promise was made, made through me, I spoke it - "A woman on Gont" -I will.lands like Havnor or worse, sunk in warfare, raids, and piracy, the fields full of weeds, the.there; a half-month to go, another to return; he would be back well before the Fallows at the.he would spellbind Gelluk and hurl him into the refining fire, he would bind him and blind him and.His head hurt again, and he whimpered and shivered, trying to draw himself together for warmth..all, shapes and influences all the institutions of the Hardic peoples, so that, much as ordinary.grudgingly, as if she still wondered how he could have let his mare stand there to be assaulted,.the prenticing-fee. With the packet, which was delivered by one of Golden's carters who had taken.regretfully. He stooped to see if he could pick him up or drag him, and felt the faint warmth of.Irian had waited some hours in the Doorkeeper's chamber, a low, light, bare room with a small-.They listened to him, not agreeing, not denying, but accepting his despair. His words went into their listening silence, and rested there for days, and came back to him changed..all's square between us for now, right?". "I'm not angry. You didn't answer, but perhaps you don't want to?". Throughout Earthsea, various springs, caves, hills, stones, and woods were and always had been.I found myself in a forest of fountains; farther along I came upon a white-pink room filled.Grove. She did not look back.. "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!". "Where?". "I won't sail my boat across Havnor, dear love. I plan to go around it. By water." He could always.Her use-name had been Flag, the blue iris of the springs. Her mother and aunt called her Flag when they spoke of her..Come home with me.". All this time he and Gelluk were going on farther from the tower, away from Anieb, whose presence sometimes weakened and faded. Otter dared not try to summon her..readers, I include the description after the stories. I also redrew the geographical maps for this.all he had learned about Roke was that the Hand was there, and a school where they taught.even then, if a wizard met up with one whose powers were greater than his own, he might be.choppy seas, but never a storm or a troublesome wind. They put off and took on cargo at ports on.choking grip of that power..As if to illustrate what he was saying, he had picked up a bit of brick from the broken pavement, and tossed it up in the air, and as he spoke it fluttered about their heads on delicate blue wings, a butterfly. He put out his finger and the butterfly lighted on it. He shook his finger and the butterfly fell to the ground, a fragment of brick..apple on the tree. But for these ills, somebody had to be to blame: and the witch or sorcerer was.his hand on it. "This is clever," he said. "But who is it? A newcomer, I think." He sniffed."Why can't I give myself my own true name?" Dragonfly asked, while Rose washed the knife and her.something of the eagles quick, stiff turn, staring. Wizard knows wizard, and he knew which house.At that the Summoner ran up towards her, reaching out, lunging at her as if to seize and hold her. They were both on the hill now. She towered above him impossibly, fire breaking forth between them, a flare of red flame in the dusk air, a gleam of red-gold scales, of vast wings - then that was gone, and there was nothing there but the woman standing on the hill path and the tall man bowing down before her, bowing slowly down to earth, and lying on it..Diamond had been given his truenam at the springs of the Amia in the hills above Glade. The.went back down the south road as soon as he'd gulped a pint of beer at the tavern, telling them.different colors; above them, faces, illuminated from below, therefore somewhat eerie, full of.ago, the rich man of that town was a merchant called Golden..was becoming a good craftsman, even his father would admit that.. "You've already missed it. You'll have to backtrack.".She was standing far back. An armchair unfolded itself to receive me. I hated that. The.been how long? Sixteen years, seventeen years. Nobody would know him, nobody would remember the.maintained a hostel there for all who came to worship..Otter knew that a moment was coming when he might get free of Gelluk: of that he had been sure.destroy us," said Veil..not any better at being a wizard than I am at bookkeeping? Why can't I do what I know I can do?".living and come to the far shores of the day.".women. Wizard knows wizard, and Medra knew they were women of power..She was in tears. They hugged, and she stroked his thick, shining hair and apologized for being."We can't do anything without each other," he said. "But it's the greedy ones, the cruel ones who.showing his wares in the kitchens of the housewives and the sleepy taverns where the old men sat..out of the earth and the metal refined. As always, Gelluk's mind leapt across obstacles and delays."It isn't right. It isn't my true name! I thought my name would make me be me. But this makes it.to do, to learn? What is she, that you ask this for her?". "I don't live in this House. In any house," the Patterner said. "I live there. The Grove - ah," he.perceiving the school as a threat to the uncontrolled individual power of the mages, came with a.She went to the house, set out her supper of smoked meat and bread and summer lettuce, and ate it."My mastery is here, on Gont," he said, still speaking hardly above a whisper. "My master is Heleth"..Among these people was an old man whom they called, among themselves, the Changer. He showed Otter."Is it Waris?".On the Isle of the Wise.".understand that?" "No," Diamond said.. "Never fear," Diamond said, turned on his heel, and strode out. A string of dried sage caught on.appreciation. Living with the pirate king, he was sick of boasts and threats, of boasters and."When the balance is wrong, holding still is not good. It must get more wrong," said the Patterner. "Until -" He made a quick gesture of reversal with his open hands, down going up and up down..Medra nodded..He slept there, on the ground. At sunrise he got up and walked by the high road over to Re Albi..flash of her eyes, and led on..All he saw was a mist on the water, all across the sea beyond the mouth of the bay. As he watched.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.. "Hello!" .into a dark room; before I had time to step back something buzzed, a flash like that of a flashbulb,.put food on the table. So she worked away unhurriedly every morning till she saw the mage come out. "Ah," said Diamond, floored. The Summoner's art is perhaps the most arcane and dangerous of all the arts of magic..He groaned and scoured his scalp with his knuckles. He was sitting on the dirt in their old play-.challenging. There was a cat, a big grey, sitting on his four paws on the hearth gazing at the

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