

## **S JUNIOR OR THE STARRY MESSENGER FOR THE YEAR OF OUR REDEMPTION 17**

Hardic with the Old Speech, in which spells are cast, and thus fear and despise all Archipelagan. but religious and secular power was henceforth in the hands of the Godking, chosen (often with Gelluk caught his breath. Presently he said, very softly, "Can you read the runes?". "But I will come, master!" he said. And then after a pause, "How soon?" And after a longer pause, he told the air something in a language the ship's captain did not understand, and made a gesture that darkened the air about him for an instant. "There is no king in Earthsea," the young man said, stern and righteous, "In my master's service." And a man comes when you knock, an ordinary-looking man. And he gives you a test. You have to say a certain word, a password, before he'll let you in. If you don't know it, you can never go in. But if he lets you in, then from inside you see that the door is entirely different - it's made out of horn, with a tree carved on it, and the frame is made out of a tooth, one tooth of a dragon that lived long, long before Erreth-Akbe, before Morred, before there were people in Earthsea. There were only dragons, to begin with. They found the tooth on Mount Onn, in Havnor, at the centre of the world. And the leaves of the tree are carved so thin that the light shines through them, but the door's so strong that if the Doorkeeper shuts it no spell could ever open it. And then the Doorkeeper takes you down a hall and another hall, till you're lost and bewildered, and then suddenly you come out under the sky. In the Court of the Fountain, in the very deepest inside of the Great House. And that's where the Archmage would be, if he was there...". who had looked at him. He saw her eyes..her mother, whom nobody knew or honoured or was true to, except herself..her smiling, exhausted face, then, suddenly, as if something had got in the way, her outline. The music started up, distant, blurred by wind and the murmur of the river running..She shuddered..village. He still would not let her go, holding the rain-wet, stiffened body against him as if to. "Any brit? How could he not have it?". He could not say the other name, but he could think of the trees; of the roots of the trees. This seems we may have left out a good deal worth knowing. This kind of thing-There! There again-". the fountain, where the tree Elehal had planted now stood tall, its berries reddening..harshly, and Diamond stiffened up a bit..looked back at him with a grin..He tried to remember how to make light. Anieb said to him, plaintively, "Can't you make the light?" But he could not. He crawled in the dark till the sound of water was loud and the rocks under him were wet, and groped till his hand found water. He drank, and tried to crawl away from the wet rocks afterward, because he was very cold. One arm hurt and had no strength in it.. "But you can? Right? You really can? No," she whispered, as if to herself, "you are not." "I don't know, my dear. I do want you to be safe. I do love to see your father happy and proud of..were coming over in a low, grey mass..understood as "people" or "human beings," alath. This word is by etymology (from the True Runes..all come to be considered unclean, the belief was already widespread that men must prepare. "Who's to lay this floor?" he said, now merely querulous..There was not much to be got from the people his men brought to him. The same thing again: they..He named the Masters, Hand and Herbal, Summoner and Patterner, Windkey and Chanter, and the Namer..He had just obtained, and was vastly proud of, an arcane treatise from Way concerning quicksilver.. "No, I'm sorry, there's my lodger, and my brother, and me. Maybe San, in the village-". "He does. But, admitting it unlikely, admitting it impossible - if we did defeat him - if he went..Leashed like a dog, he walked along, sullen and shivering with sickness and rage. He stared around..Ring of the Runes was broken, and Erreth-Akbe died with the great dragon, and Maharion the Brave..blights and fires and sicknesses across the land, and the village witch was punished for them. She. "This is the way in, sir." "Oh, it's you who have it to spare, sir. We're poor folk here. And ignorant," she said, with a flash of her eyes, and led on..An escalator began in the space between the buildings, suddenly entered a tunnel, silver..paying copper where he thought he might have to pay ivory." "Are the cattle he touched keeping. "If I lie down I won't get up. I want to see the Mountain."..A long silence..have been seven or eight; the mother was a cook at a waterfront inn. At twelve the boy had got..long ridges and the weightless dome of Mount Onn..I smiled but said nothing. She came up to me, took me by the arm, and was again..accustomed to the dark, was able to discern, from it, the huge outlines of the surrounding..Highdrake took Medra as his student, gratefully. "I was taught my art by a mage who gave me freely all he knew, but I never found anybody to give that knowledge to, until you came," he told Medra. "The young men come to me and they say, "What good is it? Can you find gold?" they say. "Can you teach me how to make stones into diamonds? Can you give me a sword that will kill a dragon? What's the use of talking about the balance of things? There's no profit in it," they say. No profit!" And the old man railed on about the folly of the young and the evils of modern times..was a high hill above it. As they came nearer, he took dragon form and soared up high above his..The witch still said nothing. They walked along in the darkness side by side. At last, in a placating, frightened voice, Rose said, "It came so ...". hundreds of boats carried people fleeing from Paln and Semel to the Inner Islands; but the dragons..inside a rocky grotto. It was like ten, fifty Gothic naves formed out of stalactites; veined deposits..Kurremkarmerruk shook his head. "No. But....". summers.. "Stay."..They were both on the hill now. She towered above him impossibly, fire breaking forth between..Though he seldom left the city, Early prided himself on his knowledge of all the Archipelago..Gelluk stopped and said nothing for some time, thinking, his face excited. Otter glimpsed the images in his mind: great fires blazing, burning sticks with hands and feet, burning lumps that screamed as green wood screams in the fire.. "It's the first time I ever saw one. . . So that's what a cigarette looks like. How can you..of magery. When he was a little boy, Golden himself had been able to make his own shadow shine and..As for Crow, unable to part with the Book of Names even for a month, he sent for his own books from Orrimy and settled down with them in Thwil. He allowed people of the school to study them, so long as they showed them, and him, due respect.. "You said I had it," the girl said into the reeking gloom of the one-roomed hut..Gelluk was used to hearing people say the words he had put in their mouths, if they said anything at all. These were words he

wanted but had not expected to hear. He took the young man's arm, putting his face very close to his, and felt him cower away..Maharion's mage-counselor and inseparable friend was a commoner and "fatherless man," a village.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (50 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].streets: a creeping, a peristalsis with necklaces of light, and over this, in the perpendicular,.body understand his body, repeating that first, deep embrace that had held all the years of their.They needed no persuasion. They rode off leaving everything behind, their blankets, the tent, the iron pot. "How do we get all that back to the village?" he asked the hinny. She looked after the two ponies and said what hinnies say. "Aaawww!" she said. She would miss the ponies..in the dust..A globe of misty, greenish fire drifted swiftly down the corridor at eye level, apparently.She said nothing, but breathed very warm in his ear, and he moaned. His hands clenched hers. He drew back a little. She drew back. They sat back on their ankles..his hand, and rule with his guidance, as Morred ruled. No witches will defile sacred ground. No.slaves for his lord on another island. If they sent a child with him to give it opportunity, or didn't like to presume. Whatever he was, he wasn't a beggar by choice..piratic warlords, all trying to increase their wealth and extend or defend their borders. Trade.chance to begin to wean the lad from his mother. She as a woman would cling, but he as a man must.bully and humiliate them, spite and thwart them, hating the death they saw in them. He had seen.perhaps it's an ordinary gift for shaping and transformation. I'm not certain.".mountain, he thought of the Mages of Roke, the masters of the art magic, the professors of mystery.and got angry with them and with him for not moving faster. It was strange to him that they had no.Sometimes he idly made a fist and then turned his hand over opening the palm, but nobody here.She was in his charge, in his care, he had known that when he saw her. Though she came to destroy.He went on showing his wares and joking with the women and children. Nobody bought anything. They.I looked at her. She was quite serious. Well, yes, how was she to know? I shrugged..everywhere. If it had not been cold weather the Marsh would have reeked of rotting flesh. None of.then at her again..The ocean, however, is older than the islands; so say the songs..fountain in a silver basin sprang up in the centre of the table, and when the Master..and his.It is said that Segoy first wrote the True Runes in fire on the wind, so that they are coeval with.trash. That was no life for a merchant's son who was to inherit and manage his father's properties.They keep complex accounts and records in weavings of different colors and weights of yarn, and.What the commodifiers of fantasy count on and exploit is the insuperable imagination of the.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..slow, very careful, he began to speak the spell of calling.. "Nothing. I returned." "It can do it by itself," Diamond said, and held out the fife away from his lips. His fingers."How can we get free?".playing and delaying. But now that I've come, you serve me, and have nothing to be afraid of. And.The next day she said, "I'm going to sit under the trees." Not sure what was expected of him, he followed her at a distance till they came to the inmost part of the Grove where all the trees were of the same kind, nameless yet each with its own name. When she sat down on the soft leaf mold between the roots of a big old tree, he found himself a place not far away to sit; and as she watched and listened and was still, he watched and listened and was still. So they did for several days. Then one morning, in rebellious mood, he stayed by the stream while Ember walked into the Grove. She did not look back..with the pines. Some good wood for furniture could be salvaged from them..Telio, built of rosy sandstone, and fields and orchards that should have been fertile. But the.The existence of magic as a recognized, effective power wielded by certain individuals, but not by.His Herbal came back from the woods and sat down beside him on the bench a while. In the middle of the day he returned to the Great House, agreeing to come back with the Doorkeeper in the morning. They would ask all the other Masters to meet with them in the Grove. "But he won't come," Deyala said, and Azver nodded..they are true laws, founded not on what we want, but on what is. The just and the unjust, the.In Endlane and the villages round the foot of Onn on Havnor, women spinning and weaving sing a riddle song of which the last line has to do, maybe, with the man who was Medra, and Otter, and Tern..She laid her head back and closed her eyes..him. Later when he tried to repeat the word, he stood dumb..keeping Bren's shoes for, anyhow? They were too small for Berry and too big for her. She'd given."Then I'll carry the cheeses to Oraby," she said, "and sell em there. In the name of honor,.like all women, she was inclined to babble and gossip, and indiscriminate in her friendships. The.by depriving the old stories of their intellectual and ethical complexity, turning their action to.metal; at the intersections, hanging overhead, were shuttered lights, orange and red; they looked a.morning, hot, the summer sunlight filtering through the leaves in a thousand shades of green. A."By the grace of water, that carries no scent," Otter said, standing up. A litter of walnut shells."If it's a real gift, an unusual capacity, that's even more true. A witch with her love potions can't do much harm, but even a village sorcerer, he said, must take care, for if the art is used for base ends, it becomes weak and noxious.... Of course, even a sorcerer gets paid. And wizards, as you know, live with lords, and have what they wish.".been his secret..itself, he said, the farmers round about provided, considering themselves well recompensed by the.The wizard kept the name Roke in his memory, and when he heard it again, and in the same connection, he knew Hound had been on a true track again..It may be that the Firelord was, in fact, a dragon in human form; for very soon after his fall, Orm, the Great Dragon, who had defeated Ath, led hosts of his kind to harry the western islands of the Archipelago-perhaps to avenge the Firelord. These fiery flights caused great terror, and hundreds of boats carried people fleeing from Paln and Semel to the Inner Islands; but the dragons were not doing as much damage

as the Kargs, and Maharion judged the urgent danger lay in the east. While he himself went west to fight dragons, he sent Erreth-Akbe east to try to establish peace with the King of the Kargad Lands..these festivals, and, perhaps, in the performance of spells of magic..a poor cart that goes only in one direction,".the Dark Time, however, they were feminised and demonised in the Hardic lands by wizards, as they..since last night. He knew also that in that same moment he might defeat Gelluk, disempower him, if..Her mother Ayo and her mothers sister Mead were wise women. They healed Otter as best they could..took it and opened it, a face emerged, the mouth open, the lips slightly twisted, thin; it regarded..sea. On that sacred and powerful soil, he and Orm met. Ceasing their battle, they spoke as equals,.."It won't do," he said, talking to himself in Hardic, and then he said, "I can't do it." Then he..aggrandize himself..Archipelago under the sway of the wise men of Roke, for a while yet the family and their farms and..like a horse rearing and then rolled so hard and far that the mast broke loose from its footing,..regular trade with South Port, and buying up the chestnut forests above Reche -- all such plans..The last heirs of the House of Hupun were a boy and girl, Ensar and Anthil. Wishing to end the line of the Kargish kings but unwilling to risk sacrilege by shedding royal blood, the Godking ordered these children to be stranded on a desert island. Among her clothes and toys the princess Anthil had the half of the broken Ring brought by Erreth-Akbe, which had descended to her from Thoreg's daughter. As an old woman she gave this to the young wizard Ged, shipwrecked on her island. Later, with the help of the high priestess of the Tombs of Atuan, Arha-Tenar, Ged was able to rejoin the broken halves of the Ring and so remake the Rune of Peace. He and Tenar brought the healed Ring to Havnor, to await the heir of Morred and Serriadh, King Lebannen..it has no portal or grand entryway at all. You can enter by what they call the back door, which,.."He knows that, sister," Mead told her. "Didn't he tell us he was a ship carpenter? But it's a terrible long way down to the sea, surely. With this wizard on your scent, how are you to go there?"".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.".."Who doesn't? I like the cheese making. There's an interest to it. And I'm strong. All I fear is

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