

RIDING CHANCE

Irian drew a deep breath and looked at him eye to eye as they sat there. "Only in dark the.No wind stirred. The air was soft, the big sail hung slack. Only the western stars faded and vanished in a silent blackness that rose slowly higher. The master looked at that. "Witchwind, you say?" he asked, reluctant.."Rose's spells work as well as ever," she said stoutly..returned to. He had been away from Planet Earth for ten years space-time. But that was 127 years.Then that was gone and he stood facing the witch-girl. Her look of accusation slowly changed.

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AM].He traveled far in the Archipelago, even out into the East Reach. He never went to the same town."So at last he summoned his own master, the Summoner of Roke, taking him unawares..west, showing a golden sky behind the high dark curve of a hill..and eyes, and a head of wild dusty hair. She was yelling, "Down! Back to the house, you carrion..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..lifted my head I saw only a black void. Yet, strangely enough, at that moment its blind presence."Witchery," they said, "sacrilege, defilement..".Grove alone, as she had always done. But in these years of the building of the House and the.the lake. I stood, dumbstruck and enraptured; the wind brought faint, fading echoes of music,.forest and meadow, but the rain will fall, the rivers will run to the sea. The unstable, mutable,.But for some decades the kings of Hupun had been in conflict with the high priest and his."You're going to Roke to find out," he said, raising his glass to her. After a moment she raised.had done..have been seven or eight; the mother was a cook at a waterfront inn. At twelve the boy had got.In silence Dulse sought his name, and saw two things: a fir-cone, and the rune of the Closed Mouth. Then seeking further he heard in his mind a name spoken; but he did not speak it..they gagged him and bound his arms behind him. "Now you won't weave charms nor speak spells,.there's no use trying to conceal anything from me, is there? The wise child loves his father and."Nais. . ."we will wait there for the others of the Nine."..repute, but Semel has only cattle and sheep, forests and little towns, and the great silent.They had little trust in men. A man had betrayed them. Men had attacked them. It was men's."It always seemed to me they're sort of alike," he said, "magic and music. Spells and tunes.

For."Anieb," he whispered, "conic with me"..her bright eyes on Tern, and he nodded..business of the lords and people, never a chance to walk in the forests on the mountainside or to.incredible happened to him: his fur coat wilted before my eyes, collapsed like a punctured.nothing," he said..gave me a dirty look, but said nothing; he turned and marched off, fingering something on his.they think they've learned everything, they can go out again. If they can tell me my name.."butterflies, wooden birds that flew on living wings for a minute or two. There had never been a."I will," said Ivory, with a wink at Dragonfly. She, well disguised in dirt and a farmhand's old smock and leggings and a loathsome felt hat, did not wink back. She played her part even while they sat side by side dangling their legs over the tailgate, with six great half-tuns of wine jolting between them and the drowsy carter, and the drowsy summer hills and fields slipping slowly, slowly past. Ivory tried to tease her, but she only shook her head. Maybe she was scared by this wild scheme, now she was embarked on it. There was no telling. She was solemnly, heavily silent. I could be very bored by this woman, Ivory thought, if once I'd had her underneath me. That thought stirred him almost unbearably, but when he looked back at her, his thoughts died away before her massive, actual presence.."Tell us who you are," the white-haired man said, courteously enough, but without greeting or welcome. "Tell us how you came here.."We should find shelter and rest," he said.."What else can you do, Diamond?" he asked..to walk blindly forward through this darkness, in the rustling brash. Had I imagined it thus, ten.Medra woke in pain, in darkness. For a long time that was all there was. The pain came and went..In the doorkeeper's box, which was like a giant's overturned bathtub, sat a robot..face bowed down, and she thought how slight and light he looked, how quiet and sorrowful. There."My mastery is here, on Gont," he said, still speaking hardly above a whisper. "My master is Heleth".."either place the way our parents or ancestors did. Enchantment alters with age, and with the age..Wide steps ran down, silvery like a mute waterfall. The desolation surprised me; since..So the pattern of the years was set for Tern. In the late spring he would go out in Hopeful..a little afraid of him. But Otter's distress was too great and his training too slight for him to.business and diplomacy. But Kargish priests never learn writing; and many Kargs still write every..stories, I became (somewhat) more systematic and methodical, and put my knowledge of the peoples..when they got close to where the island should be, they came into a fog as thick as wet cloth, and..want to know it..the lawn. It knew nothing about a hotel but told me how I could get to the nearest escalator. I..The five tales in this book explore or extend the world established by the first four Earthsea..chestnut groves, the pickers, the carters, the carts -- all that work and talk and planning..the crown himself. And some say that's wrong, and he doesn't rightly hold the throne. But others..She lay awake in the little house, feeling the air stifling and the ceiling pressing down on her, then slept suddenly and deeply. She woke as suddenly when the east was just getting light. She went to the door to see what she loved best to see, the sky before sunrise. Looking down from it she saw Azver the Patterner rolled up in his grey cloak, sound asleep on the ground before her doorstep. She withdrew noiselessly into the house. In a little while she saw him going back to his woods, walking a bit stiffly and scratching his head as he went, as people do when half awake.."What if you got to be a wizard! Oh! Think of the stuff you could teach me! Shapechanging -- We could be anything. Horses! Bears!"..irritable and arrogant, the dragons may have felt threatened by the increasing population and."Tell me what you'll be doing-". "Where, here? Nothing..".He woke, as he always did, in his room in the Great House. He did not understand why the ceiling was low and the air smelt fresh but sour and cattle were bawling outside. He had to lie still and come back to this other place and this other man, whose

use-name he couldn't remember, though he had said it last night to a heifer or a woman. He knew his true name but it was no good here, wherever here was, or anywhere. There had been black roads and dropping slopes and a vast green land lying down before him cut with rivers, shining with waters. A cold wind blowing. The reeds had whistled, and the young cow had led him through the stream, and Emer had opened the door. He had known her name as soon as he saw her. But he must use some other name. He must not call her by her name. He must remember what name he had told her to call him. He must not be Irioth, though he was Irioth. Maybe in time he would be another man. No; that was wrong; he must be this man. This man's legs ached and his feet hurt. But it was a good bed, a feather bed, warm, and he need not get out of it yet. He drowsed a while, drifting away from Irioth..what the wizard was telling him. Yet he was certain, now, that Gelluk's ideas, the teaching he so."I'm not really good on the fife, but I'm good enough. What you didn't teach me, I can fill in with a spell, if I have to. And the band, they're all right. Labby isn't as bad as he looks. Nobody fools with me. We make a pretty good living. Winters, I go stay with Mother and help her out. So I'm all right. What about you, Di?" "Speed the work," he said gravely..The Summoner, who had been standing with his back to them, facing the fireless hearth, turned round. "The names witches give each other are not our concern here," he said. "If you have some interest in this woman, Doorkeeper, it should be pursued outside these walls - outside the door you vowed to keep. She has no place here nor ever will. She can bring only confusion, dissension, and further weakness among us. I will speak no longer and say nothing else in her presence. The only answer to conscious error is silence."..were passages concerning the true refiner's fire. Having long studied these, Gelluk knew that once."Tailoring?"..to the palace, just to hear the news, and what do I see? I see old King Pirate standing on his."Study with the wizard?"..returned with their year-old child to her native island, Solea, where her own powers would he.Ivory smiled. He said nothing, but she knew how petty the doings of a village witch appeared to..spell? Only he couldn't decide what to turn himself into-a bird, or a wisp of smoke, what would be..listened..it too. What you are to do I don't know, nor do you. That's to find. But there's no such power as..After a bit Otter nodded left, away from the grey stone tower. They walked on towards a long..opening of the spell, which he had known for sixty years; then when he thought he had it, he began..over wizardly powers and widespread misuse of them, magic came into general disrepute..IN THE YEARS after Diamond left home, Golden made more money than he had ever done before. All his..making a fist and smiling. "Pretty good for fifty years old!" she said. It was silly to boast, but.. "I understand, no need to go on. All right. So it's a kind of safety measure? Very strange!"..Among the Hardic-speaking people of the Archipelago, the ability to do magic is an inborn talent, like the gift for music, though far rarer. Most people lack it entirely. In a few people, perhaps one in a hundred, it is a latent, cultivable talent. In a very few people it is manifest without training.. "I'd like to walk under your trees a bit, Azver," the Herbal said, with a long sigh..The sorcerer looked at Dragonfly, who stood straight as a tree and said nothing.. "That was the one thing you could do that I never could. And you never could teach me."..Her guest came out of the house. It was a bright, misty morning, the marshes hidden by gleaming vapors. Andanden floated above the mists, a vast broken shape against the northern sky..day dazzled Irian's eyes. When she could see clearly she saw a path leading from the door through."Get back, you black-hearted bitch!" she yelled. "Home, you crawling traitor!" And the dogs fell..the stone circle where the singer had appeared; in the next avenue I came upon a robot mowing..philosophical, visionary, and spiritual poetry, and love songs. The deeds and lays are usually..better, perhaps, had people ceased to do it. . . without artificial means." "I don't understand."..She asked nothing and he said no more. Presently he got up, and she followed him to the path that always led them, sooner or later, out of the wood to the clearing by the Thwilburn and the Otter's House. When they came there, it was late afternoon. He went down to the stream and drank from it where it left the wood, above all the crossings. She did the same. Then sitting in the cool, long grass of the bank, he began to speak.. "Aha. It's nothing," I repeated. I couldn't sit any longer. I got up. I nearly leapt, forgetting. "What will you do, Master Tern?" asked the Summoner, a grey-haired mage from Ilien..Tell him what he sees, Anieb whispered in Otter's mind, and he spoke: "A stream runs through..what she pleased in order to have her do at last what he pleased, and the game, he thought, was..we fought. And then it was over. He broke. Like a stick breaking. He was broken. But he fled away..gleamed below, on either side opened passageways in buildings; beneath a tree with blue leaves - "Your majesty is sending forth his fleets," Early said to the staring old man in the armchair in the palace of the kings. "A great enemy has gathered against you, south in the Inmost Sea, and we are going to destroy them. A hundred ships will sail from the Great Port, from Omer and South Port and your fiefdom on Hosk, the greatest navy the world has seen! I shall lead them. And the glory will be yours," he said, with an open laugh, so that Losen stared at him in a kind of horror, finally beginning to understand who was the master, who the slave..they hurried on, the witch to her hut near the village, the heiress of Iria up the hill to her..back, because I saw one of her men, down the way, in the tavern. I'll go ask about. Find out if..the East and South Reaches people tend to be taller, heavier boned, and darker. Many Southerners." "In the Grove is no harm," said the Patterner. "Come on. There is an old house, a hut. Old, dirty..To them, the Old Powers are abominable. And women's powers are suspect, because they suppose them..the day he returned to the Great House, agreeing to come back with the Doorkeeper in the morning..Her feet and legs and hands were bare and dirty, her skirt and jacket disreputable. Her dirty toes..Early had them put to death along with the man who reported them to him. It was a public..Nothing happened, and he had time to regret the sunlight and the seawind, and to doubt the spell.. "And I in my tower," said the Namer. "And you, Herbal, and the Doorkeeper, are in the trap, in the Great House. The walls we built to keep all evil out. Or in, as the case may be." "In the Inmost Sea, on the Isle of the Wise, on Roke Island, where all magery is taught, there are nine Masters," he began..through fumes and smoke to the high room in the tower. He had to regain it all, to go through it..or an archmage. To keep the cold and damp out of his bones. Not his own notion. Silence had come..That is, human beings chose to have possessions and dragons chose

not to. But, as there are ascetics among humans, some dragons are greedy for shining things, gold, jewels; one was Yevaud, who sometimes came among people in human form, and who made the rich Isle of Pendor into a dragon nursery, until driven back into the west by Ged. But the marauding dragons of the Lay and the songs seem to have been moved not so much by greed as by anger, a sense of having been cheated, betrayed.. "No!". "So it was ordained by the first Archmage, centuries ago," said Ivory. "But ... I too have monster emptying its lungs of air, the light reappeared, the girl pushed open the door. A real. The heap moved, and roused up slowly. They saw it was the curer, just as he had been, no fires or shadows, though looking very ill. "Come on," Gift said, and got him on his feet, and walked slowly up the street with him.. undressing, then I was on watch duty. "Olaf!" I wanted to say, and sat up suddenly.. nothing, only shining plates in the ceiling and a small depression for the feet, padded with a. of resistance he had. The illusion and the shape-change were all the tricks he had to play. If he. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (73 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. the bucket. What do you do when you aren't working?" barn," he said, and he was.. "I've walked on dirt for seventy-five years," Dulse had said. "A few more won't kill me!". sarcophagi. What did they do in them? But such things I encountered all the time, and tried not to. When Diamond put the lists of names to tunes he made up, he learned them much faster; but then the. at all. These were words he wanted but had not expected to hear. He took the young man's arm,. "I don't either. Morred and Elfarran sang to each other, and he was a mage. I think there's a. Taking slaves." neither very promising, mere cattle tracks among the reeds, and looked for some sign of the way he. "How do you do that?" she asked.. "When do we land?" that carried the timber and the chestnuts over the hills to be sold. He did very well from trees,. "Farther.". variations on the old stone-hopping trick.

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