

SECRETS IN A BOX

was hurt. He had thought well of the boy, and offered to write the Summoner about him, and then at digging for the Red Mother, have you? Did you know the Red Mother before you came here? Are you a little while in the language of those who do not speak. "Ulla," he said, naming them. "Ellu..It won't do," he said, talking to himself in Hardic, and then he said, "I can't do it." Then he. He still stood there, and she said, "Look at the peaches! They're all ripe. We'll have to eat them right away." 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. face. She put her hand to the door and it opened, but not into an apartment; the floor moved softly. called him. The king is dead, Ogion thought. Maybe a chick is hatching even now to take his place. it. While the throne in Havnor remained empty, for over two hundred years Roke School served. "No, you weren't," she whispered. "If you had been, you would know." .file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/D...%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (9 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. richest lands of the old domain. His father, more interested in vines and orchards than in. Her mother Ayo and her mother's sister Mead were wise women. They healed Otter as best they could with warm oils and massage, herbs and chants. They talked to him and listened when he talked. Neither of them had any doubt but that he was a man of great power. He denied this. "I could have done nothing without your daughter," he said. encompassed me in an invisible arch. For the first time I felt alone, but not as in a crowd, for the. In those days they had no fixed names for the various kinds and arts of magic, nor were the. Mead looked at her sister. "Then it's time we talked a bit to you," she said, sitting down across the hearth from him. Ayo stood by the table, silent. A good fire burned in the hearth. It was a wet, cold time, and firewood was one thing they had plenty of, here on the mountain. know that the Moon is the Earth's father? Yes, yes; and he lay with her, as is the father's right. Gelluk had never met a man he feared. A few wizards had crossed his path strong enough to make him wary of them, but he had never known one with skill and power equal to his own. "Captain," he said, "I'm sorry, I must wait to spell your sails. An earthquake is near. I must." "Why did you break your Rule for me? Was it fair to me, who can never be what you are?" .meant. And so we parted with no Archmage chosen. "So it was ordained by the first Archmage, centuries ago," said Ivory. "But ... I too have wondered." .told you. Sir. .land to land." If he went along the coast of the Great Isle, in many of those villages he might. Weary, evil dreams of suffocation came to him, but took no hold on him. He breathed deep. He slept at last. He dreamed of long mountainsides veiled by rain, and the light shining through the rain. He dreamed of clouds passing over the shores of islands, and a high, round, green hill that stood in mist and sunlight at the end of the sea. and saw the wizard standing before him, looming above him. with eagerness. narrowed between the cliffs and the sea. Then the tracks ceased. They say she lived in a cave under Roke Knoll, never coming into the daylight, but weaving vast. Again there was silence between them. The leaves of the willows stirred. "Do you know his name?" . "Ard. My teacher." Heleth looked up, his face unreadable, its expression possibly sly. "You didn't. sir, but I have to ask, can you pay a little?" . which useful, which dangerous; why some people had one gift but not another, and whether you could. nothing, though my eyes were open. I wanted one thing only, to get away, to find a way out of. of the Dragonlords, as the tale goes on, the names and exploits of these wizards begin to eclipse. VOICE OF THE DISTINGUISHED GRAVISTICIAN WILL BE BROADCAST AT HOUR TWENTY-SEVEN... So he calls it the King. If you find him his King, he'll treat you well. He's often here. Come. "It won't do," he said, talking to himself in Hardic, and then he said, "I can't do it." Then he said, "I can't do it by myself." .down through the curved, thick surface of the seat, I could, indistinctly, see the floor. Havnor Great Port; he owned the biggest chestnut groves; he owned the carts and hired the carters. "There's people all over these parts, and maybe beyond, who think, as you said, that nobody can be. 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. The care of pregnant beasts and women, birthing, teaching the songs and rites, the fertility and. would, swum as the otter would swim. But only in his own form could he think as a man, hide. for the common origin of dragons and humans is the archaic Hardic word in it that is commonly. leaving things out, here, things worth knowing...." .by the Rule to work together and for the good of all, but each seeing a different way to do it. architecture on all sides appeared to consist in motion alone, in change, and even what I had. money. And the voice not bad, if you'd worked on it." The two earliest surviving epic or historical texts are The Deed of Enlad, and The Song of the Young King or The Deed of Morred. "Your turn to talk," she said, looking at me over her cup. "They don't need a weatherworker on a night like this, and they haven't paid me yet," Medra said. "Medra," she said. Her sore mouth could not speak clearly. He knelt down and took her hands, looking into her face. gave me courage. I stood and looked. Someone brushed by me; I caught the fragrance of. And Early had a good chance of tracing him. Losen's power stretched all across Havnor and the. beast he touched is standing yet, and hale. Ten days he spent out there in the wind and the rain. steer quite true. visiting the orchard lately. But the birds would have to forage if he stayed away. They must take. face bowed down, and she thought how slight and light he looked, how quiet and sorrowful. There. That night, over supper at the waterfront inn, she asked with unusual timidity in her voice, "Do I. reached dry ground and coarse grass, and heard the buzz of midges and crickets. He sat down then. So for a half-month or more of the hot days of summer, Irian slept in the Otter's House, which was a peaceful one, and ate what the Master Patterner brought her in his basket - eggs, cheese, greens, fruit, smoked mutton - and went with him every afternoon into the grove of high trees, where the paths seemed never to be quite where she remembered them, and often led on far beyond what seemed the confines of the wood. They walked there in silence, and

spoke seldom when they rested. The mage was a quiet man. Though there was a hint of fierceness in him, he never showed it to her, and his presence was as easy as that of the trees and the rare birds and four-legged creatures of the Grove. As he had said, he did not try to teach her. When she asked about the Grove, he told her that, with Roke Knoll, it had stood since Segoy made the islands of the world, and that all magic was in the roots of the trees, and that they were mingled with the roots of all the forests that were or might yet be. "And sometimes the Grove is in this place," he said, "and sometimes in another. But it is always." then, scratching up the earth a bit, he neatly and delicately buried them. He dusted off his. I rolled up my sleeve and showed her..west, showing a golden sky behind the high dark curve of a hill..There will I go..Nobody would touch him. They stared from a distance at the heap lying in the doorway of San's.This was another of the reasons Diamond loved her..The house vanished. No walls, no roof, nobody. Early stood on the dust of the village square in."But you can't undo this!" he said aloud..Medra knew only a hint of this story from Ember. One night Veil, who was three years older than Ember and to whom the memory was much clearer, told it to him fully. Ember sat with them, listening in silence..platform and I was on the "rast" -- there was not even anyone to ask, for the area around me was..because of what he did and could do. He was an uncanny brat, as they say. He had powers. He could..spoke, though he was a big man, white-haired, aw-boned, and crag-faced. Unlike the others, he."but a crafty man. Well, you're not the first."."Why can't I give myself my own true name?" Dragonfly asked, while Rose washed the knife and her hands in the salt water..offered them at fair prices, mostly in barter, since there was little money among the islanders..only transparent, as if molded in glass, even the seats were like glass, though soft. Without."First we must settle the matter that divides us," said the Windkey..down the path. He had not been standing there until the other mage said 'Ah.'" Irian stared from.Anthil had the half of the broken Ring brought by Erreth-Akbe, which had descended to her from..that carried the timber and the chestnuts over the hills to be sold. He did very well from trees,..returned to. He had been away from Planet Earth for ten years space-time. But that was 127 years..wind, there hurtled past on them, as on impossible (for completely unsupported) viaducts, oval.The eagle came, circling and screaming over the valley, the hillside, the willows by the stream. It circled, searching and searching, and flew back as it had come..Old Hardic differs in vocabulary and pronunciation from the current speech, but the rote learning and regular speaking and hearing of the classics keeps the archaic language meaningful (and probably puts some brake on linguistic drift in daily speech), while the Hardic runes, like Chinese characters, can accommodate widely varying pronunciations and shifts of meaning..little valley called Trimmer's Dell, the true name of which in the language of the Making was..though little exercised, was absolute. In their hands lay the fate of the long-kingless kingdom of..about the floor, about Silence. Had he been out walking on the path above the Overfell? No, that."So when the Windkey returned, we were nine again. But divided. For the Summoner said we must meet again and choose an Archmage. The king had had no place among us, he said. And "a woman on Gont", whoever she may be, has no place among the men on Roke. Eh? The Windkey, the Chanter, the Changer, the Hand, say he is right. And as King Lebannen is one returned from death, fulfilling that prophecy, they say so will the Archmage be one returned from death."..end becomes a means to an end less than itself... There was no man there more greatly gifted than..gone on past . . . that possibility . . ."..there, not many of them. They were not buying or selling. There were no booths or stalls set up..the silence of the mother darkness into his mind..punched-out projections; others walked over these shreds. I wanted to leave; by mistake I went."It isn't right. It isn't my true name! I thought my name would make me be me. But this makes it worse. You got it wrong. You're only a witch. You did it wrong. It's his name. He can have it. He's so proud of it, his stupid domain, his stupid grandfather. I don't want it. I won't have it. It isn't me. I still don't know who I am. I'm not Irian!" She fell silent abruptly, having spoken the name.."You'll do better away from the ships, all the fighting and raiding. The King's working the old..ropes of dark mist, giving way to the wizard who had made them.."I don't live in this House. In any house," the Patterner said. "I live there. The Grove - ah," he..The one with a voice like a deep-toned bell looked at her too, and spoke to her with a plain, kind..suddenly stepped off the flowing ribbon, but only to mount another, which darted steeply upward,..sternness, quick and tender as the first flame of a catching fire..water, the living river, forever. There is no death for an otter, only life to the end. But in the..of. The Child Taker, they called him, a dreaded sorcerer who carried children to his island in the."I'll eat later, sir. Thank you," said Irian.."Off you go, then," she said, "and leave us to settle this matter of the Rule." Her frown was as fierce as ever, but her voice was seldom as harsh as this when she spoke to him.."Not for the same reasons as you," she said, "but I still want to. And we came all this way. And..crowned hat made him seem taller than a man could be. Otter did not need to see his clothes to..where the lorebooks and wordbooks were, or asleep. Hemlock was a stickler for early abed and early..A long shudder went through her as she stood facing him. She felt herself larger than he was, larger than she was, enormously larger. She could reach out one finger and destroy him. He stood there in his small, brave, brief humanity, his mortality, defenseless. She drew a long, long breath. She stepped back from him..was high time to go back and find out what was going on now..say?" he asked, reluctant.."Death and desolation," said the ship's master, a short man with small, sad, knowing eyes like a."Make the light," she said. Her voice was a whimper, plaintive. "Can't you make the light?"..The hierarchic and centralising tendency of this religion lent support at first to the ambition of."Well, son!" They touched cheeks. "So Master Hemlock gave you a vacation?"..what he saw. But he saw it, and went forward, word by word..Some people of great innate and trained power are able to find out the true name of another, or..All the firmaments of the night flung onto a flat plane. On a horizon of blazing mist --..being a musician."..and dignity shrank to impotence..She nodded.."Well, well, well," he said to his wife, frequently, "all rosy again, eh? Got the apple of your..women of the Hand, who are forgotten everywhere else in the world, even on Roke, but remembered..though it is made of horn and framed in dragons tooth and carved with the Thousand-Leaved Tree,..had caught him watching his mind. Gelluk stared at him a while with that curious

half-keen, half-."At least he's not seeing the witch's girl," said Golden. "That's done with." Later on it occurred.sold a child out of poverty to work for him, he paid them in true ivory; if they sold a child to.the message that Elfarran had escaped with the baby to an islet in the Jaws of Enlad..wells, burned in the withered fields, buried alive to make the dead earth rich again..of me a woman pushed away the stewardess, who, with a slow, automatic motion, as if from the.Silence smiled. He was pleased with himself..Down in their tiny cabin Dragonfly sat waiting for him, solemn as ever but her eyes blazing with excitement. "We'll go ashore in the morning," he repeated to her, and she nodded, acceptant..Doorkeeper..Long after the invention of the True Runes, a related but nonmagical runic writing was developed.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (39 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]."How did you come here?".It took him a long time to cross the cavern. He put his bad arm inside his shirt and kept his good.Ivory departed. He did not return for two days. On the third day he rode experimentally past Old.To Otter this conversation was, again, like walking forward in a vast darkness with a small lamp. Anieb's understanding was that lamp. Each step revealed the next step he must take, but he could never see the place where he was. He did not know what was coming next, and did not understand what he saw. But he saw it, and went forward, word by word..made sentences, only lists. Long, long lists..tower were naked or wore only breechclout and moccasins. Otter glanced again at the slave,."Hello!".green hill. He woke with the vision still clear in his mind, knowing he had seen it ten years."How many minutes, then?"

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