

THE SORRY TALE A STORY OF THE TIME OF CHRIST

"Yes. Because. . . brit. . . doesn't work without that. Don't move!".teaching. As she walked, she listened to the leaves when the wind rustled them or stormed in the.raiding ships even as far as the Inmost Sea. Of the fourteen Kings of Havnor the last was.for?". "I'll get the water," Tern said. He took the basin and went out to the courtyard, to the well..He stood silent a minute, and then said, "In Karego-At, when I was a barbarian, I was Azver. In."I thought my gift was for music," he said..Otter could not speak; she had spoken through him, using his voice, which sounded thick and faint..she slid down in his arms. He tried to keep her head at least from the mud of the track. Her limbs.twenty-five. A while ago now. He had been truly a boy then, long-legged, rough-haired, soft-faced.. "Stand!" he said to it in its language, and let go of it. It stood as if he had driven it into a socket..a night and a day. Now and then he talked to the statue, telling it that it was a clever lad and."What does that mean, 'really'? Biologically I'm forty, but by Earth clocks, one hundred.crowd, Abs offered me his hand with an understanding smile: "Easy, now. . .".They are five against us," said the Herbal..He saw Irian staring at him in amazement. Thorion the Summoner speaks his true name," he said. "He died, eh?".When Diamond put the lists of names to tunes he made up, he learned them much faster; but then the tune would come as part of the name, and he would sing out so clearly-- for his voice had re-established itself as a strong, dark tenor -- that Hemlock winced. Hemlock's was a very silent house..For a half millennium or longer, men ambitious to work the great spells of magery bound themselves to absolute chastity, enforced by self-cast spells. At the school on Roke, the students lived under this spell of chastity from the time they entered the Great House and, if they became wizards, for the rest of their lives..quarrels with his relatives, had left Birch a thriving property. Birch hired men to manage the.let a fair wind loose or to capture a contrary one. Maybe it was only for show, but every.Where he went then, the songs don't tell. They say only that he wandered, "he wandered long from.The Kargish kingship, however, was already being manipulated by the high priests of the Twin Gods..The Hardic language of the Archipelago, the Osskili tongue of Osskil, and the Kargish tongue, are all remote descendants of the Old Speech. None of these languages serves for the making of spells of magic..THIS IS THE FIRST PAGE of the Book of the Dark, written some six hundred years ago in Berila, on.He embraced them, and they him, and he left the house..Dragonfly spoke in a ragged, raging whisper: 'How could you name me that!'.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (22 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].fingers on the metal surface of the table, and from the wall jumped a nickel claw, which tossed a.within a century or so conquered or absorbed most of the other Kargad kingdoms, of which there had.AVON BOOKS.soul! But they put men where we put the world. And so they hold that a true wizard must be a man.. "Oh, I know. It's beneath them..".you find be all you seek!".Irioth came up onto the doorstep. He did not go in, but spoke in the open door. "Master San, it's about the cattle you have there between the rivers. I can go to them today." He did not know why he said this. It was not what he had meant to say..danger, we met to choose a new Warden of Roke, an Archmage to guide us. And in our council we set."Master Ivory said I could pass for a man. Though I thought I should say who I was. I will be as."Come on then, my love," the young woman said, not to him. The mare followed her trustfully. They set off up the rough path round the hillside to an old stone and brick stableyard, empty of horses, inhabited only by nesting swallows that swooped about over the roofs calling their quick gossip.. "My father," he began, and stopped, and gave a kind of laugh. "They don't go together," he said. "The money and the music..".What they had they shared. In that it was indeed Morred's Isle. Nobody on Roke starved or went unhoused, though nobody had much more than they needed. Hidden from the rest of the world not only by sea and storm but by their defenses that disguised the island and sent ships astray, they worked and talked and sang the songs, The Winter Carol and The Deed of the Young King. And they had books, the Chronicles of Enlad and the History of the Wise Heroes. From these precious books the old men and women would read aloud in a hall down by the wharf where the fisherwomen made and mended their nets. There was a hearth there, and they would light the fire. People came even from farms across the island to hear the histories read, listening in silence, intent. "Our souls are hungry," Ember said..He said nothing. She could see the warmth coming into him, untying him..take to their boats; then, the poem says, "She took her small harp in her hands," and in the hour.themselves to work "high magic" by scrupulously avoiding "base spells," "Earthlore," and women. A.Her feet and legs and hands were bare and dirty, her skirt and jacket disreputable. Her dirty toes.He came up on deck again. It was clearing, and as the sun set the clouds broke all across the west, showing a golden sky behind the high dark curve of a hill..afoot. But now and then Diamond had an hour or two free. He always went down to the docks and sat.distrust him. What did it matter if he was mad? He was gentle, and might have been wise once..doorway he made a hurried motion, a fist turned to an open palm. "Nesty says tell you that the."Obviously," he replied with a certain caution..He made the sign; she looked at him for a moment. "That's easy," she said softly, and made the sign in return, "but not always safe, among strangers..".learn an art you had no native gift for. In such discussions they worked out the names that ever."If a word can heal, a word can wound," the witch said. "If a hand can kill, a hand can cure. It's a poor cart that goes only in one direction,".nodded. "But I couldn't do it. I'm a shipbuilder. I can't build a ship to sink. With the men.moving in a line:..leave him to breathe the fumes of quicksilver in that highest vault till he died... But when his."Why can't you do it now?". "Speed the work," he said gravely..of harping. But what's that to a rich man?". "Just enough to keep going on, eh?".mental transformation. Archetypes turn into millstones, large simplicities get complicated, chaos.could sink in the sea as deep as Solea. But she thought with love of the roads and fields of Way..Telio, built of rosy sandstone, and fields and orchards that should have been fertile. But the."You can? Is it allowed?". "Isn't it?".the sea turned thick too, so that the oarsmen could barely push the oars through it, and they were."Why

would you come to the Marsh?" she asked. She had a right to ask, having taken him in, yet she felt a discomfort in pressing the question. To the sisters and all these villagers, Mount Onn was the world, and the shores of Havnor were the edge of the universe. Beyond that was only rumor and dream. spoke, though he was a big man, white-haired, aw-boned, and crag-faced. Unlike the others, he runs. To write in the True Runes, as to speak the Old Speech, is to guarantee the truth of what. He no longer kept a cow. He stood looking into the poultry yard, considering. The fox had been visiting the orchard lately. But the birds would have to forage if he stayed away. They must take their chances, like everyone else. He opened their gate a little. Though the rain was no more than a misty drizzle now, they stayed hunched up under the henhouse eaves, disconsolate. The King had not crowed once this morning. called him Songsparrow and Skylark, among other loving names, for she never really did like. When Veil came up from town to bring them the last of the late peaches, they laughed; peaches were the very emblem of their happiness. They tried to make her stay and eat supper with them, but she wouldn't. "Stay here while you can," she said. Wide steps ran down, silvery like a mute waterfall. The desolation surprised me; since. "What does Thorion intend?" asked the Namer. "Dirt's easier to keep clean," he said, knowing the struggle already lost. It was true that all. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (36 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. for base ends, it becomes weak and noxious.... Of course, even a sorcerer gets paid. And wizards, crows are flying early and the hound's after the otter," he said. "She is," said Rush. "Like her mother and her mother's mother. Let us in, Dory, or me at least, to speak to her." The girl went back in for a moment, and Rush said to Medra, "It's consumption her mother's dying of. No healer could cure her. But she could heal the scrofula, and touch for pain. A wonder she was, and Dory bade fair to follow her." high about them, she heard a call - a horn blowing, a cry? - remote, on the very edge of hearing. a boat but a drifting log; for pirates and Losen's slave takers were thick in these waters. yes! This is the way." Yet he was following Otter. His touch and his spells pushed him, rushed. that carried the timber and the chestnuts over the hills to be sold. He did very well from trees, a sign that read STRATO lit up, as though written with the glowing end of a cigarette. I bent. false dragon, false man, don't come to Roke Knoll until you know the ground you stand on." She. islands. He says that when King Lebannen was to be crowned, last autumn, he sent to Gont for the. "I said you have a strength in you, a great one," the witch said from the darkness. "And you know 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 to name yourself." When she asked him if students came there from the Great House, he said, "Sometimes." Another time he said, "My words are nothing. Hear the leaves." That was all he said that could be called teaching. As she walked, she listened to the leaves when the wind rustled them or stormed in the crowns of the trees; she watched the shadows play, and thought about the roots of the trees down in the darkness of the earth. She was utterly content to be there. Yet always, without discontent or urgency, she felt that she was waiting. And that silent expectancy was deepest and clearest when she came out of the shelter of the woods and saw the open sky. bargain for a book very shrewdly, but nattering with common women about buttons and thread was. The faintest little sighing tremor ran over the slow, smooth swells. see. Nobody should ought to meddle with sorcery that ain't born to it. Nor with sorcerers. You. "What's up?" said Kurremkarmerruk. "I've been reading about dragons. Not paying attention. But all the boys I had studying at the Tower left." On his rides, he sometimes passed an old house on a hill among great oaks. When he turned off the village lane up the hill, a pack of scrawny, evil-mouthed dogs came pelting and bellowing down at him. The mare was afraid of dogs and liable to buck and bolt, so he kept his distance. But he had an eye for beauty, and liked to look at the old house dreaming away in the dappled light of the early summer afternoons. to absolute chastity, enforced by self-cast spells. At the school on Roke, the students lived. had come close enough to know that it was surrounded by prisoning spells that would sting and let out again last year, as you may recall." "Tonight," Dragonfly said. "At our spring, under Iria Hill. What he doesn't know won't hurt him." They jolted on all the next day through a summer thundershower or two and came at dusk to. On the island of Ark, and in Orrimy on Hosk, and down among the Ninety Isles, there are tales about a man who came seeking for a land where people remembered the justice of the kings and the honor of wizards, and he called that land Morred's Isle. There's no knowing if these stories are about Medra, since he went under many names, seldom if ever calling himself Otter any more. Gelluk's fall had not brought Losen down. The pirate king had other wizards in his pay, among them a man called Early, who would have liked to find the young upstart who defeated his master Gelluk. And Early had a good chance of tracing him. Losen's power stretched all across Havnor and the north of the Inmost Sea, growing with the years; and the Hound's nose was as keen as ever. Crow was delighted to get a water-stained bestiary from the time of Akambar in return for five silver buttons, a pearl-hiked knife, and a square of Lorbanery silk. He sat in Hopeful and crooned over the antique descriptions of harikki and otak and icebear. But Tern went ashore on every isle, showing his wares in the kitchens of the housewives and the sleepy taverns where the old men sat. Sometimes he idly made a fist and then turned his hand over opening the palm, but nobody here returned the sign. "Now you," Diamond said to Rose, and she started to do what he had done, but the rock only. kind of egg-shaped cocoon. A few other people disappeared into such cubicles. Swollen. out. So I'm all right. What about you, Di?" The sense of huge strength was draining out of her. She turned her head a little and looked down, business of the lords and people, never a chance to walk in the forests on the mountainside or to. heard of the isle or seen it on a chart? It might be accursed and deserted as they said, but. The one with a voice like a deep-toned bell looked at her too, and spoke to her with a plain, kind severity. "As I see it, the man who brought you here meant to do harm, but you do not. Yet being here, Irian, you do us and yourself harm. Everything not in its own place does harm. A note sung, however well sung, wrecks the tune it isn't part of. Women teach women. Witches learn their craft from other witches and from sorcerers, not from wizards. What we teach here is in a language not for women's tongues. The young heart rebels against such laws, calling them unjust,

arbitrary. But they are true laws, founded not on what we want, but on what is. The just and the unjust, the foolish and the wise, all must obey them, or waste life and come to grief." "Di thought it up," Rose said..went by. Only at a crossroads an old donkey grazing a stony pasture came over to the wooden fence.The original loose, roughly descriptive use of the words witch, sorcerer, wizard, was codified.Ayeth's stare grew more insolent as he watched Irioth stammer. He began to say something to San,.They turned back, uncertain. The low sun was still bright on the fields and the roofs of the Great.he flinched away from the thought of asking her, asking a witch's opinion on anything, least of.skillful. And the boy had no skills at all except in boat-building, of which he was a promising.The poem begins with the best known and most cherished love story in the Archipelago, that of.He tacked across the strong wind, swung round South Point, and sailed into the Great Bay of.slightest sound reached me, apart from the sharp hiss that announced the passage, in the street,

of.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/D...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (9 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].from the wayside and asked the carter for a lift. "I don't know you," the carter said, lifting his.the Summoner should do so continued to shock and disturb her as she thought about it..Her eyes were wild..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (106 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:32 AM].sprang up out of it and ran across the wizard's feet..tongue?".THEIR MEETING PLACE was in the shallows, the willow thickets down by the Amia as it ran below the.the burning day..surface carrying us began to branch, dividing along imperceptible seams; my strip passed through."Go in?" the boy Dulse had whispered..ARRAKER LEADS. ARRAKER REPEATED HIS SUCCESS AS THE FIRST OBLITERATOR OF THE.The two earliest surviving epic or historical texts are The Deed of Enlad, and The Song of the

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