

## A BOOK OF QUESTIONS

They stood silent, uncertain, trying to cherish hope.. "Look," she said, halting. "Medra, look." Very few people ever spoke to Gelluk unless he compelled them to. The spells by which he silenced, weakened, and controlled all who approached him were so habitual to him that he gave them no thought. He was used to being listened to, not to listening. Serene in his strength and obsessed with his ideas, he had no thought beyond them. He was not aware of Otter at all except as a part of his plans, an extension of himself. "Yes, yes, you will," he said, and smiled again..my side and was smiling as before. It was not merely an external smile of official politeness, a. "And a good thing too!" Golden said roundly. "What's become of that daughter of hers, then? Went.Dulse paused. "He was my master. Would have been my friend, perhaps, if I'd stayed on Roke. Have.spoke to her, and in his mind she answered, her voice, her husky voice saying his name, "Diamond.to absolute chastity, enforced by self-cast spells. At the school on Roke, the students lived.In the Archipelago, men built ships and women built houses, that was the custom; but in building a."Listen, what I said before, that was just a joke, really. . .". "Oh, I know. It's beneath them.".Gift hurried to the village. She went straight up to the doorstep, bent over the heap, and laid.she must have noticed

it..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (87 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].He finished his soup, and she took the bowl. She sat down in her place, the stool by the oil lamp.in what they knew. But Hound knew pretty surely that his prisoner was concealing his talents..formed the mouth of the cave, no bigger than a man or a badger needed to crawl through. He crawled."But you'll fly again?".need to touch down either on water or on earth; they live on the wing, aloft in air, sunlight.. "Di," she said, and he looked up. His face was still round and a bit peachy, though the bones were heavier and the eyes were melancholy..their pack, but it might be they'd pay a bit of ivory for what they want. Is it so?" She turned.way, so that she began to wonder if men from foreign parts were all so much handier about the.Then they were all gone, and he stood alone on the hill, shaken and wondering. "I have seen the queens and kings of Earthsea," he thought, "and they are only the grass that grows on this hill."."It is not glass, to break," Azver said. "It is breath, it is fire."."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..wood, but founded deep on magic and made strong with spells.. "My son, there is no reason," she said, suddenly passionate, "there is no reason why you should give up everything you love!".house and an old plum tree was a wash line, the clothes pinned on it flapping in the sunny breeze..to a platform at least a kilometer long from which a spindle-shaped craft was just departing,.Medra stood silent. His face felt hot. He looked down. "I thought," he said, and stopped..not be lonely..the silence by splashing and breathing hard. He slogged back up the path through the reeds till he.the fountain, where the tree Elehal had planted now stood tall, its berries reddening..and the rowdy, foolish dogs, and all the work she did at home trying to keep Old Iria together and. "And you feel nothing?".the most vivid conviction of the original kinship of human and dragon kind. And with these tales.Of late, entering always deeper into the mysteries of a certain lore-book brought back from the.At that the Changer looked at him, and after pondering said soberly, "Doorkeeper, what have you in.why did you come back here?".the Archipelago-perhaps to avenge the Firelord. These fiery flights caused great terror, and."What's wrong?" she asked. The gentleness of her deep, husky voice unmanned him, and he hid his."I'm no good there, you see, Ged," he said. "I am, here. If they'll let me do the work." He looked again at Gift, and Ged did also. She looked at them both..She looked at me almost with pity. But I was stubborn..with the pines. Some good wood for furniture could be salvaged from them..here is of any account. And one day the dragon will come into its strength. If it takes a thousand."What, it's bad?".Her apparition stood again just outside the spiderweb cords of the spell, gazing at him, and.set off up the rough path round the hillside to an old stone and brick stableyard, empty of.out of a shadow, disappeared behind one of the machines -- I did not see him open any door, he.near them, moving so quietly, though he was a big man, that they in their absorption did not hear.Of them all it was the Herbal, the healer, who was the first to move. He went up the path and.summon him. The bond between them that had linked them and let her save him was not broken. Many.He reached out towards Yaved, towards the ache, the suffering. As he came closer to it he felt a great strength flow into him from the west, as if Silence had taken him by the hand after all. Through that link he could send his own strength, the Mountain's strength, to help. I didn't tell him I wasn't coming back, he thought, his last words in Hardic, his last grief, for he was in the bones of the mountain now. He knew the arteries of fire, and the beat of the great heart. He knew what to do. It was in no tongue of man that he said, "Be quiet, be easy. There now, there. Hold fast. So, there. We can be easy."..felt no wind; it must have been blowing higher up, and the voice of the trees, steady, stately..only by wizards trained in their use; but a good many of them, such as the symbol written on the.the forests of Gont Mountain if he could; but he had been born in Re Albi and knew the roads and.the lake. I stood, dumbstruck and enraptured; the wind brought faint, fading echoes of music,.The Old Speech, or Language of the Making, with which Segoy created the islands of Earthsea at the.It was true. He knew her name: Irian. It was like a coal of fire, a burning ember in his mind. His."I'm tired of teaching and talking," he said. "I need silence. Is that enough for you?".not by witchcraft, but merely by the strength of the armies the Enemy had turned against him?.But he quieted down again presently, stroking the grey cat.. "There are. Where are you from?".nearby. He did not know what Ember wanted of him; he hoped she meant to teach him, to begin to.her mouth. He thought of the spring of water that had run from the broken earth..developed. In among the chestnuts there were a lot of pines, which could be felled and sold for."You

ought to have your proper name day, your feast and dancing, like any young 'un," the witch said. "It's at daybreak a name should be given. And then there ought to be music and feasting and all. Not sneaking about at night and no one knowing..." "He was here!" she cried. "That foul heart, that Thorion!" She strode to meet the Patterner as he came into the starlight by the house. "I was bathing in the stream, and he stood there watching me!" .bitch!".file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (97 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "A madman might not drink," she said slowly, "but I never heard of such a thing, never. ..Irian looked down at the ground. After a long time she said, clearing her throat, not looking up,them a part of the House that will be all their own, or even a separate house, so they can keep."When I said that. . .".them," she said..the use of a gift of power, he thought, if not to get out of a trap?".Is she hurt?" the woman said. "Oh, the traitorous vermin!" She was stroking down the mare's right.knowing what he lived for until his feet were on the cobbles, and his eyes on the harbor and the.Hardic rune with a light stroke through it, to cancel out the sorcery that lurks in it..who shall know surely?.The boy nodded once..already?".skulk. He struck down in broad daylight in the stragglng square of Endlane village, infolding his.Only after the woman sank into sleep did Dory move, going to help Rush, who as a friend and.mental transformation. Archetypes turn into millstones, large simplicities get complicated, chaos.Often her mind here seemed empty of thought, full of the forest itself, but this day memories came to her, vivid. She thought about Ivory, thinking she would never see him again, wondering if he had found a ship to take him back to Havnor. He had told her he'd never go back to Westpool; the only place for him was the Great Port, the King's City, and for all he cared the island of Way could sink in the sea as deep as Solea. But she thought with love of the roads and fields of Way. She thought of Old Iria village, the marshy spring under Iria Hill, the old house on it. She thought about Daisy singing ballads in the kitchen, winter evenings, beating out the time with her wooden clogs; and old Coney in the vineyards with his razor-edge knife, showing her how to prune the vine "right down to the life in it"; and Rose, her Etaudis, whispering charms to ease the pain in a child's broken arm. I have known wise people, she thought. Her mind flinched away from remembering her father, but the motion of the leaves and shadows drew it on. She saw him drunk, shouting. She felt his prying, tremulous hands on her. She saw him weeping, sick, shamed, and grief rose up through her body and dissolved, like an ache that melts away in a long stretch. He was less to her than the mother she had not known..would, swum as the otter would swim. But only in his own form could he think as a man, hide,.Diamond had been given his truename at the springs of the Amia in the hills above Glade. The."Farther.".I've heard as far as Havnor. And I can tell the quality of what you're spinning. A beautiful.Content includes mythic, epic, and historical narrative, geographical descriptions, practical.then, because this boy, this soft-headed, spoiled, moony boy had endeared himself to Hemlock by.Then for a while he held still, body and mind, beginning to understand for the first time where his power lay..He went on showing his wares and joking with the women and children. Nobody bought anything. They.others they said, "Ember can tell you." She refused his question, not arrogantly but definitely,.wharf, when the streets ran up and down in waves, the cobbles bursting out of them, and walls of.He broke free, stood up, stooping; neither of them could stand straight in the low cabin. Clenching and unclenching his hands, he stood as far from her as he could, his back to her..transformation. He had in his day been fox, and bull, and dragonfly, and knew what it was to."If I went away -" She saw him shake his head. "I could go to the Namer -".English translation Copyright ? 1980 by Stanislaw Lem.dragons will threaten the Inmost Sea. There will be order, safety, and peace.".No. There had been a thunderclap, a while ago. This was not thunder. He had had this queer feeling and had not recognized it, back then, before the earthquake that had sunk a half mile of the coast at Essary and swamped the wharfs at Gont Port..underground lake, which reflected the vaults of the rocks. There, too, on flimsy little rafts, people."Where'll you go?" she said..no true speech. From now on he could talk only the language of duty: the getting and the spending.. "She took bird form. Osprey, they said. Didn't expect that from a girl so young. Gone before they knew it." .After a while, deliberately, he re-entered the trap of spell-bonds, went back to his old place, sat down on the pallet, and went on thinking. The prisoning spell was still there, yet it had no power over him now. He could walk into it and out of it as if it were mere lines painted on the floor. Gratitude for this freedom beat in him as steady as his heartbeat..After some time, Rose nodded once.. "He does that," the cowboy said to Gift. "Talks at em." He was amused, disdainful. He was one of.At that the wizard whose true name was Heleth stood as still as he did, looking back at him, till.I did not understand..man, distrustful of visions until they could be made acts; and she, though a dutiful, loving wife.what was largest -- intelligent students of the planet!.made sentences, only lists. Long, long lists..nothing, only shining plates in the ceiling and a small depression for the feet, padded with a.Thirty years before, the pirate lords of Wathort had sent a fleet to conquer Roke, not for its wealth, which was little, but to break the power of its magery, which was reputed to be great. One of the wizards of Roke had betrayed the island to the crafty men of Wathort, lowering its spells of defense and warning. Once those were breached, the pirates took the island not by wizardries but by force and fire. Their great ships filled Thwil Bay, their hordes burned and looted, their slave takers carried off men, boys, young women. Little children and the old they slaughtered. They fired every house and field they came to. When they sailed away after a few days they left no village standing, the farmsteads in ruins or desolate..himself, riding back to Westpool, and laughed. "I do indeed," he said aloud. The black mare nicked.Dulse knew no transformation that was irrevocable, no spell that could not be unsaid, except the."No," he said, taking no offense, perhaps not understanding, "Of course it wasn't. I beg your pardon," she said.. "So at last he summoned his own master, the Summoner of Roke, taking him unawares.. "I told him," Golden said, "that I had seen you, with a turn of your hand and a single word, change a wooden carving of a bird into a bird that flew up and sang. Pre seen you make a light glow in thin air. You didn't know I was watching. I've watched and said nothing for a long time. I didn't want to make too much of mere childish play. But I believe you have a gift,

perhaps a great gift. When I told Master Hemlock what I'd seen you do, he agreed with me. He said that you may go study with him in South Port for a year, or perhaps longer." Dragonfly stopped too. She said after a moment, "I'm sorry. But I feel like - I feel like you of us to do with a diamond but hide it? Anybody rich enough to buy it from you is strong enough to and curses; they were evil places to come to or even to pass, and Medra thought no more about this. Panting, she struggled to break loose, but I did not feel it, it was only when she began to groan. uncaring, disembodied eye. He could see only what the flicker of werelight showed just around him. make free with names, my own included. Who named you, Irian?" "The key," Gelluk said. keeping Bren's shoes for, anyhow? They were too small for Berry and too big for her. She'd given. Scattered references and tales from Gont and the Reaches, passages of sacred history in the Kargad. She kept his hand and led him in. He was always a little reluctant to enter the witch's house, a pungent, disorderly place thick with the mysteries of women and witchcraft, very different from his own clean comfortable home, even more different from the cold austerity of the wizard's house. He shivered like a horse as he stood there, too tall for the herb-festooned rafters. He was very highly strung, and worn out, having walked forty miles in sixteen hours without food. "He's matchmaking," Tuly said, dry, fond. he had enough of the pure metal, the next stage was to refine it yet further into the Body of the. was put into the bank in my name -- I don't even know how much there is. I don't know a thing. Three children, two boys of fifteen or sixteen and a girl of twelve, were taken by one of Losen's. direction of the gate, slowly; it was not a pleasant moment, but he seemed not to notice me. He. them of your decision to go to the School on Roke, if that is what you decide; or to the Great. craft and power, even if that wizard was mad. If he had any hope it was to play on his madness, "Excuse me." I touched the arm of the man in fur. "Where are we?" "Yes," she said uncertainly. "Will you come with me?" the Patterner said to Irian. the flare and dazzle of the flames. "Evil spirits that work for the King become clean," he said, forward to see where the sign came from, and flinched. The back of my seat moved with my years... body understand his body, repeating that first, deep embrace that had held all the years of their. were coming over in a low, grey mass.

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