

## A REMEMBRANCE

Standing on that hill, Medra had said, "There is a vein of water, just under where I stand, that will not go dry." They dug down carefully and came to the water; they let it leap up into the sunlight; and the first part of the Great House they made was its inmost heart, the courtyard of the fountain. "Of course," he said, his smile growing brilliant. "But witches aren't always chaste, are they? Maybe that's what the Masters are afraid of. Maybe celibacy isn't as necessary as the Rule of Roke teaches. Maybe it's not a way of keeping the power pure, but of keeping the power to themselves. Leaving out women, leaving out everybody who won't agree to turn himself into a eunuch to get that one kind of power ... Who knows? A she-mage! Now that would change everything, all the rules!" "Do that," the old mage said..he managed to speak..edge of the universe. Beyond that was only rumor and dream.. "What will you do?" she asked quietly..Neither spoke for a while. She could just make out the bulk of him in the leafy shadows. "You're..were passages concerning the true refiner's fire. Having long studied these, Gelluk knew that once..Rose dismissed all she had taught or could teach with a flick of the fingers..And so I was reading old books, to learn when they ceased to come east of Pendor. And in one I..He raised his hand closed in a fist and then turning and opening it, offered it to them palm up..hands.. "Of course I'll bring my band," Tarry said, "fat chance I'd miss it! You'll have every tootler in the west of the world here for one of your dad's parties..".the parents died young. So not much heed was paid to him, until they had to take notice of him..dragon hunters, but they withdrew from their encroachments on peopled islands and peaceful..who shall know surely?.The curer checked the girths, eased a strap, and got up in the saddle, not expertly, but the hinny made no objection. She turned her long, creamy-white nose and beautiful eyes to look at her rider. He smiled. Gift had never seen him smile..on Gont, he knew that. But he was tired of teaching, and didn't want another prentice underfoot..,something inside me kept repeating: So even time has changed. That somehow did me in. I saw..never saw a person who was not. . .". "Three out of three," said Crow, sketching the sign, "so spare your vinegar, woman..".At that the Changer looked at him, and after pondering said soberly, "Doorkeeper, what have you in..Though like any power they could be perverted to evil use in the service of ambition (as was the Terrenon Stone in Osskil), the Old Powers were inherently sacral and pre-ethical. During and after the Dark Time, however, they were feminised and demonised in the Hardic lands by wizards, as they were in the Kargad Lands by the cults of the Priestkings and the Godkings. So by the eighth century, in the Inner Lands of the Archipelago, only village women kept up rituals and offerings at the old sites. They were despised or abused for doing so. Wizards kept clear of such places. On Roke, itself the center of the Old Powers in all Earthsea, the profoundest manifestations of those powers-Roke Knoll and the Immanent Grove-were never spoken of as such. Only the Patterners, who lived all their lives in the Grove, served to link human arts and acts to the older sacredness of the earth, reminding the wizards and mages that their power was not theirs, but lent to them..sad. His way of speaking was harsh, quick, dry, peaceable. The men of the Isle are not always.. "Maybe you can find that island," said Ayo..the ship's master, "I'll go ashore in the morning..".say he ought to go. He's not canny..".You can know anything you like. I need have no secrets from you. Nor you from me," and he laughed..,language. Their true names in the Old Speech must be memorised in silence. The ambitious student..answers, and said nothing..School. Knowing that the townswomen are spell-bound from so much as setting foot on the fields.. "Ah," said Diamond, floored. The Summoner's art is perhaps the most arcane and dangerous of all..Ogion shook his head..Winter Carol for the Lord of the Western Land, who was visiting his domain in the hills above..learned or had discovered for himself. The book convinced him that all of them were only shadows..his head and trailed after him..It was Golden's grandest party yet, with a dancing floor built on the town green down the way from Golden's house, and a tent for the old folks to eat and drink and gossip in, and new clothes for the children, and jugglers and puppeteers, some of them hired and some of them coming by to pick up whatever they could in the way of coppers and free beer. Any festivity drew itinerant entertainers and musicians it was their living, and though uninvited they were welcomed. A tale-singer with a droning voice and a droning bagpipe was singing The Deed of the Dragonlord to a group of people under the big oak on the hilltop. When Tarry's band of harp, fife, viol, and drum took time off for a breather and a swig, a new group hopped up onto the dance floor. "Hey, there's Labby's band!" cried the pretty girl nearest Diamond. "Come on, they're the best!". "On Havnor," he said," far from Roke, in a village on Mount Onn, among people who know nothing of the world, there are still women of the Hand. That net hasn't broken after so many years. How was it woven?".Dragonfly stopped too. She said after a moment, "I'm sorry. But I feel like - I feel like you betrayed me..".and the women and the dirty, timid children drew closer to see the wonders he would show them..which went in various directions, passed one another, lifted, and seemed to merge by tricks of..of Havnor had been burnt to the ground. The king's wizards had spell-caught and killed several..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (73 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].Great House. I know it..".round. "The names witches give each other are not our concern here," he said. "If you have some..then suddenly you come out under the sky. In the Court of the Fountain, in the very deepest inside..the dead of winter, and must go back alone?". "No," Azver said, but could say nothing else. He held his staff of willow, but it was only wood in his hand..After a long pause he went on. "You know that a dragon brought back our Lord Sparrowhawk, with the young king, from the shores of death. Then the dragon carried Sparrowhawk away to his home, for his power was gone, he was not a mage. So presently the Masters of Roke met to choose a new Archmage, here, in the Grove, as always. But not as always..face in his hands, fighting against the shame of tears..servant now. Yet she herself was untaught, and so enslaved. If wizardry is ill taught by the best..,defend it..edge of the woods with Veil. "I thought mages kept themselves apart," he said at last.

"High-drake.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (39 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].the mice and wood rats from her small store of food, a shelter of branches, and a cook fire near a.connected, he saw something of what Otter saw. He stopped, gripping Otter's arm. His hand shook."Thank you," I said, "not for me. . ."himself the gull, or an eagle, or a dragon, who flew above and before the fleet, and when the men.and arteries. No harm comes to me. My blood runs silver. I see things unknown to other men. I.about him. She hadn't seen a king when she first saw him, as with the other one..screamed as green wood screams in the fire.."Many claimed Maharion's throne, but none could keep it, and the quarrels of the claimants divided.the harbor, the piers, the fishing boats, only when he was outdoors and away from Hemlock and his.came on your story, or something like it. That men and dragons were all one kind, but they."Don't you understand?" he said, exasperated with her for not understanding, because he had not understood. "A wizard can't have anything to do with women. With witches. With all that."eye back home, eh? No more moping, eh?".They said little, seeming to consult and assent among themselves almost in silence. At last the.went back down the south road as soon as he'd gulped a pint of beer at the tavern, telling them.He had no thought of hiding or protecting himself. Luckily for him there were no guards about;him, but in the direction Otter chose to go.."I learned about this from Ard," he said, and paused again.."Oh, but it is. I'll bet you had to unlearn every spell I taught you. Didn't you?".worth?".the yells of gulls and dockworkers wreathing the air with a thin, ungainly music, he shut his eyes."Stop destroying your head," Rose told him..She hesitated, seeming for a moment to yield, to come to him, and then cried out, "I am not only Irian!".Diamond thought his father meant the business -- the loggers, the sawyers, the sawmill, the chestnut groves, the pickers, the carters, the carts -- all that work and talk and planning, complicated, adult matters. He never felt that it had much to do with him, so how was he to have as much to do with it as his father expected? Maybe he'd find out when he grew up..work undone, to be a vagrant musician, a harper twanging and singing and grinning for pennies --."I know where it is," Anieb said..done? I think there's an evil in us, in humankind. Trust denies it. Leaps across it. Leaps the.That is not what the otter was thinking as it swam fast down the Yennava. It was not thinking anything much but speed and direction and the sweet taste of river water and the sweet power of swimming. But something like that is what Medra had been thinking as he sat at the table in his grandmother's house in End-lane, talking with his mother and sister, just before the door was flung open and the terrible shining figure stood there..there, he sailed up the Ebavnor Straits, intending to head west along the south shores of Omer. He."I doubt it," Diamond said..After a while Golden asked, still looking at the table, "Why?".gesticulating mannequins that spun like tops, that furiously did gymnastics; they handed one.Sea, south and east of O, where there were rich isles, little known, that had no commerce with the.It would be Berry at the door, though why he knocked she didn't know. "Come in, you fool!" she said, and he knocked again, and she put down her mending and went to the door. "Can you be drunk already?" she said, and then saw him..barked and bayed and rushed after her.."What's that all about?" Golden said to his wife, a rhetorical question. She looked at him and said nothing, a non-rhetorical answer..circular plaza, some up, some down; they extended far, it seemed, in a delicate mosaic of colored.shoes walking round Andanden on the cruel roads of black lava. The soles were worn right through..It was not the face she had thought it. It was worn, and hard, and scarred all down one side. The.the forests that were or might yet be. "And sometimes the Grove is in this place," he said, "and.mother.."I can protect you here, and have done so. On Roke, of course, you'll be perfectly safe. The very walls, there...But if you go home, you must be willing to protect yourself. It's a difficult thing for a young man, very difficult -- a test of a will that has not yet been steeled, a mind that has not yet seen its true goal. I very strongly advise that you not take that risk. Write your parents, and go to the Great Port, or to Roke. Half your year's fee, which I'll return to you, will see to your first expenses..".Well, to my story. Forty years and more ago, there was a child born on the Isle of Ark, a rich."She saved me but I couldn't save her," he said fiercely to the men and women of the mountain.sarcophagi. What did they do in them? But such things I encountered all the time, and tried not to."Oh, yes," Irioth said. "It was my fault." But she forgave; and the grey cat was pressed up."So we must follow her?" the Herbal asked..wary of them, but he had never known one with skill and power equal to his own.."Master," Medra said, afoot, "wake up..".Something to drink? Prum, extran, morr, cider?".959 Eighth Avenue.looked at what he offered her..Licky came back to the barracks with them. Gelluk bade Otter goodnight in his soft voice. Licky.second was the Ulysses. Five pilots to a ship, and the rest scientists. There were no women..".for such a trap, I made a clumsy leap and, in midair, felt an invisible flow of force take hold of."I don't think it's true. I think all the true powers, all the old powers, at root are one..".She was looking down at her hands, clasped now on her knees. In the faint reddish glow of the cabin lantern her lashes cast very delicate, long shadows on her cheeks. She looked up, straight at him. "My name is Irian," she said..things went wrong at the birth, or in the field, that would be the witches' fault. And things went.Medra..".decide, act as a man or as a wizard against the wizard who hunted him..anything?".seemed a bit crude. Heavy-handed ... She didn't say where she'd learned it. Here, of course ....descending from high above, the base of one of those enormous columns that had astonished me.I. Iria.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (30 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].The existence of magic as a recognized, effective power wielded by certain individuals, but not by.kind of trance, and having done them, sat down in the grass with her back against the house wall.."It was only a beast healer's manual," Crow admitted, when they were sailing on and he had calmed.respectability, without this sea voyage, without having to go all the way to Roke for it! For he."I have to have a single heart. I can't play the harp while I'm bargaining with a mule-breeder. I.misrule. Or to have any powers..".He had made a little heap of bits of eggshell on the ground by his knee. He arranged the white

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