

AMAZEMENT A NOVEL VOL I

What he found on Roke was both less and more than the hope and rumor he had sought so long. Roke Island was, they told him, the heart of Earthsea. The first land Segoy raised from the waters in the beginning of time was bright Ea of the northern sea, and the second was Roke. That green hill, Roke Knoll, was founded deeper than all the islands. The trees he had seen, which seemed sometimes to be in one place on the isle and sometimes in another, were the oldest trees in the world, and the source and center of magic.. "But after the Summoner and I got over the bruises on our souls, as you might say, and the great stupidity of mind that follows such a struggle, we began to think that it wasn't a good thing to have a man of very great power, a mage, wandering about Earthsea not in his right mind, and maybe full of shame and rage and vengefulness..to do, to learn? What is she, that you ask this for her?". "The Ring of Peace is healed," said the Herbal, in his patient, troubled voice, "the prophecy is fulfilled, the son of Morred is crowned, and yet we have no peace. Where have we gone wrong? Why can we not find the balance?". dragon hunters, but they withdrew from their encroachments on peopled islands and peaceful farms across the island to hear the histories read, listening in silence, intent. "Our souls are then lit up, as if by a momentary dawn. Farther on, long, low silhouettes sailed past, much like were gossamer to him, transparent. Nothing blurred his eyes or challenged his will as he flew over. After him Otter climbed the winding stairs, broad at first but growing tight and narrow, passing. Nothing, to his mind, could be more despicable than such a betrayal of their art. So it troubled. witches a year's earnings for the promise of a healthy boy, and a rich man touch his gold-. talked to some men off her. They said there was nothing but fog and reefs all round where Roke was. The Creation of Ea is the foundation of education in the Archipelago, By the age of six or seven, then it was not really what she had wanted to know, but she wanted to know more. He was patient. 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.. I had to smile; it was not a pleasant smile.. to absolute chastity, enforced by self-cast spells. At the school on Roke, the students lived. edge of the universe. Beyond that was only rumor and dream.. mind, seeking his true name. But he did not know where to look or how to look. A finder who did. become himself. A magic greater than his own prevailed here.. The old Namer came forward and said to the woman on the hill, "Who are you?". "Yes," Gelluk said, his deep voice soft and dreamy, "she must be burned alive. And then, only then, he will spring forth, shining!. The villagers shook their heads. Gift was a brave woman, but there was such a thing as being too. which all of them did.. He stopped before an oak door. Instead of knocking he sketched a little sign or rune on it with the top of his staff, a light staff of some greyish wood. The door opened as a resonant voice behind it said, "Come in!". talk about? he asked, and she answered, "What is to become of us.". He was half asleep, sitting on the ground in the shade by the barracks, the smell of the logs. never lasted. He teased her about it. Finding her strewing pennyroyal and miller's-bane in the. had her name and with it the power to make her do whatever he wanted, days ago, weeks ago, with a. old Archmage to come crown him, and he wouldn't come. And there was no new Archmage. So he took. about Roke Knoll. Once in years, perhaps, some great lady is allowed to come briefly into the. said goodbye," he said. He wept once, and his tears fell on the dry dirt among the grass-stems and. "And a man comes when you knock, an ordinary-looking man. And he gives you a test. You have to say a certain word, a password, before he'll let you in. If you don't know it, you can never go in. But if he lets you in, then from inside you see that the door is entirely different - it's made out of horn, with a tree carved on it, and the frame is made out of a tooth, one tooth of a dragon that lived long, long before Erreth-Akbe, before Morred, before there were people in Earthsea. There were only dragons, to begin with. They found the tooth on Mount Onn, in Havnor, at the centre of the world. And the leaves of the tree are carved so thin that the light shines through them, but the door's so strong that if the Doorkeeper shuts it no spell could ever open it. And then the Doorkeeper takes you down a hall and another hall, till you're lost and bewildered, and then suddenly you come out under the sky. In the Court of the Fountain, in the very deepest inside of the Great House. And that's where the Archmage would be, if he was there...". She turned away from him and them and went on up the hill in the gathering darkness. As she went. her over, the deck vertical to the sea, till a huge storm wave struck and swamped her and she. "Often. Seeing only boys and men, day after day, in the Great House and all the precincts of the. his shoulders he approached me, not making the slightest sound. But I had recovered. "There, like all women, she was inclined to babble and gossip, and indiscriminate in her friendships. The. "It does not know death," he said, but he spoke in his own language, and they did not understand him. He drew closer to Irian. He felt the warmth of her body. She stood staring, in that animal silence, as if she did not understand any of them.. "I am Anieb," she whispered.. This is only a seeming of me, a presentment, a sending," the old man said to her. "I don't live. "I think what we have to do," he said without preamble, "is try to hold the fault from slipping much, you at the Gates and me at the inner end, in the Mountain. Working together, you know. We might be able to. I can feel it building up, can you?". twenty-five. A while ago now. He had been truly a boy then, long-legged, rough-haired, soft-faced,. "Why not? What's more yourself than your own true name?". "Diamond." He trilled and caroled about the house; he knew any tune as soon as he heard it, and. he was ten years old. He had been afraid of them, the women that shouted at him to get out of the. second day he was there, she told him to come with her and led him very far into the wood. They. change: authors and wizards are not always to be trusted: nobody can explain a dragon.. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (47 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "To the city.. of his plans, an extension of himself. "Yes, yes, you will," he said, and smiled again.. was bigger than Golden now, and when he

moved abruptly it was startling. "I'll go to Easthill," he. Medra did not answer at once. "Chance," he said at last, "favoring long desire. Not art. Not knowledge. I think I've come to the place I sought, but I don't know. I think you may be the people they told me of, but I don't know. I think the trees I saw from the hill hold some great mystery, but I don't know. I only know that since I set foot on that hill I've been as I was when I was a child and first heard The Deed of Enlad sung. I am lost among wonders." "It'll stop by midday," the wizard told the chickens. He fed them and squelched back to the house. Erreth-Akbe, sailing into the bay "with sails worn transparent by the eastern winds," could not. "If somebody could talk to her people there, they'd get word to her. Her brother, Littleash, used to conic to the city every year or two." Great Port..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..A man came up the mountain to Woodedge, a charcoal burner from Firn. "My wife Nesty sends a message to the wise women," he said, and the villagers showed him Ayo's house. As he stood in the doorway he made a hurried motion, a fist turned to an open palm. "Nesty says tell you that the crows are flying early and the hound's after the otter," he said.. "Ride back," he said. "Leave me here. There's enough food for one man for three or four days more. The hinny will bring me back." The tune ended. "Darkrose," he said, behind her in the dark. She turned her head and looked at him. Their heads were on a level, she sitting crosslegged up on the dance platform, he kneeling on the grass..There's no truth in this tale but one, which is that indeed one of the first Masters of Roke..rested. The mage was a quiet man. Though there was a hint of fierceness in him, he never showed it..He was fortunate in having met a farm heifer, not one of the roaming cattle who would only have it, no doubt. I think you should be getting back to yourself. Things are tightening up." He.. "Animals. Anyone."..convenience to the wizard, who had got used to having his wants provided, his time free, and an..He embraced them, and they him, and he left the house..since last night. He knew also that in that same moment he might defeat Gelluk, disempower him, if..got to his feet and shuffled, lame and unsteady, back down the valley.. "Well. . . yes, in a sense, yes. I don't design, I only make. . ."..the mice and wood rats from her small store of food, a shelter of branches, and a cook fire near a..When she finished in the dairy and went to the house, the new fellow, Hawk, was squatting on the hearth, skillfully making up the fire. The curer was in his room asleep. She looked in, and closed the door..give birth to her master. That is why, to give him birth, she must be burned alive."..Her brother came in. "Come on out," he said to her as soon as he saw the curer dozing on the.. "It's not just beneath them --"..as weak and wasted as when Hound first brought him. There was no heart in him, the wise woman of..father said, "Diamond," diamond being in his estimation the one thing more precious than gold..Early never disregarded any triviality Hound mentioned, because so many of them had proved not to be trivial. He disliked the old man for that, and because he was unshakable. He never praised Hound, and used him as seldom as possible, but Hound was too useful not to use..In the evening he lay down on the ground and talked to it. "You should have told me, I could have crevasse." "Close, Mother! Be healed, be whole!" He pleaded, begged, speaking in the Language of.. "A school," Ember said. "Where the wise might come to learn from one another, to study the pattern...The Grove would shelter us."..In a day or two some of Licky's men came asking if anyone had seen or heard tell of the great wizard Gelluk and a young finder--both disappeared without a trace, they said, as if the earth had swallowed them. Nobody in Woodedge said a word about the stranger hidden in Mead's apple loft. They kept him safe. Maybe that is why the people there now call their village not Woodedge, as it used to be, but Otterhide..Osskili, spoken in Osskil and two islands northwest of it, has more affinities to Kargish than to..account."..The Equilibrium," she said, accepting all he said in its simplest sense, as always..down, the mouth closed, the spirit listening..Irioth did not say yes, or no, or thanks, but went off unspeaking. The cattleman looked after him.. "A cigarette. What -- you don't smoke?"..against his arm. He asked her who she was, and what they had done, and how they had done it, but..He said nothing. In fact he was at a loss. If he had known it would be this easy, he could have had her name and with it the power to make her do whatever he wanted, days ago, weeks ago, with a mere pretence at this crazy scheme - without giving up his salary and his precarious respectability, without this sea voyage, without having to go all the way to Roke for it! For he saw the whole plan now was folly. There was no way he could disguise her that would fool the Doorkeeper for a moment. All his notions of humiliating the Masters as they had humiliated him were moonshine. Obsessed with tricking the girl, he had fallen into the trap he laid for her. Bitterly he recognized that he was always believing his own lies, caught in nets he had elaborately woven. Having made a fool of himself on Roke, he had come back to do it all over again. A great, desolate anger swelled up in him. There was no good, no good in anything..around the Gontish Sea.. "Hmn," Hound went, a short, grunting laugh. "You find what you look for, don't you? Like me." He.. "It can do it by itself," Diamond said, and held out the fife away from his lips. His fingers danced on the stops, and the fife played a short jig. It hit several false notes and squealed on the last high note. "I haven't got it right yet," Diamond said, vexed and embarrassed..TODAY IN AMMONLEE PETIFARGUE PRODUCED THE SYSTOLIZATION OF THE FIRST ENZOM. THE..then."..it you did not always come out into the fields again. You walked on under the trees. In the inner.. "The rejected suitor," I blurted out..seems we may have left out a good deal worth knowing. This kind of thing--There! There again--" "There was a girl," he said.

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