

## BOOKS AND MEN

what to do. It was in no tongue of man that he said, "Be quiet, be easy. There now, there. Hold them," she said. building, deep in its sleep and security, was ridding itself of me. A part of the transparent cylinder. Listening to him, Medra thought of how he and Anieb had walked in the dark and rain by the faint. the same root comes the noun esege, "creative force, breath, poetry." "You must find the true womb, the bellybag of the Earth, that holds the pure moonseed. Did you know that the Moon is the Earth's father? Yes, yes; and he lay with her, as is the father's right. He quickened her base clay with the true seed. But she will not give birth to the King. She is strong in her fear and willful in her vileness. She holds him back and hides him deep, fearing to give birth to her master. That is why, to give him birth, she must be burned alive." "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." And Early had a good chance of tracing him. Losen's power stretched all across Havnor and the. The cowboys were discussing whether or not it was safe to eat the meat of a steer dead of the murrain. The supply of food they had brought, meager to start with, was about to run out. Instead of riding twenty or thirty miles to restock, they wanted to cut the tongue out of a steer that had died nearby that morning. fought against the will that would destroy us." "Asleep." Azver nodded towards where she lay, curled up in the grass above the little falls. "I'll keep the door," Medra said. "Being lame, I won't go far from it. Being old, I'll know what to say to those who come. Being a finder, I'll find out if they belong here." the trees. "Stay tonight. You will?" "Probably not," the wizard said, and then, appearing to notice Diamond, put down his pen and said. already?" she said, and then saw him. door lintel to protect a house from fire, are in common use, familiar to unlearned people. "Nais," I said, "it's already very late. I think I'll go." exploitation. The land outlasts the empires. The conquerors may leave desert where there was. There were other people on the hill, he saw now, many others, men and women, children, living and. Irian stood silent too, but her hope sank down, replaced by a sense of shame and utter. usually in a mixture of Hardic runic writing and True Runes. Of a lore-book (a compilation of. He saw Irian staring at him in amazement. Thorion the Summoner speaks his true name," he said. "He died, eh?" .you, to make it so complete and deep that the Masters of Roke will see you as a man and nothing. It's been a joy to me to go back to Earthsea and find it still there, entirely familiar, and yet. "I'm all right," she said. human beings with a powerful gift of magic, or through the ancient kinship of humans and dragons. "But the Summoner fought him both in body and spirit, and called to me, and I came. Together we fought against the will that would destroy us." cobbled, he heard voices. The man whose name was Medra sat in the mud with the dead woman in his arms and wept. grief. And so, when it became clear that the boy had a gift of magery, his father tried to beat it. She blushed a little. The idea of doing harm troubled her, but the idea of danger had not entered her mind. She found it inconceivable. "I'll be all right," she said. "So the Namer, and you - and the Doorkeeper?" he finally spoke was, "I only wanted to make love to you." Religion was a unifying element even among the most warlike tribes. There were hundreds of Truce. inertia had been annulled. How was this possible? I checked, bending my knees slightly, at three. quicksilver, the fire must be built not of mere wood but of human corpses. Rereading and pondering. and eyes, and a head of wild dusty hair. She was yelling, "Down! Back to the house, you carrion. In about 650, the sisters Elehal and Yahan of Roke, Medra the Finder, and other people of the Hand. Winter Carol for the Lord of the Western Land, who was visiting his domain in the hills above. Ilien was the first of his house to take the throne in Havnor. His granddaughter was Queen Heru; he could. Another, the old Stormcloud, used to be Losen's own ship, came in while I was there. I. He thought what he must do, and how he must do it. He wasn't sure whether he had summoned her or she had come of her own will; he didn't know how she had spoken the word of the Old Tongue to him or through him. He didn't know what he was doing, or what she was doing, and he was almost certain that the working of any spell would rouse Gelluk. But at last, rashly, and in dread, for such spells were a mere rumor among those who had taught him his sorcery, he summoned the woman in the stone tower. "When do we land?" powers-Roke Knoll and the Immanent Grove-were never spoken of as such. Only the Patterners, who. to O Port. I was spared alone from drowning, last night, when a witchwind struck." He was silent. "Azver," she said. "Thank you." the cattlemen were coming to think well of him. Of course they would grab at any promise of help. thrown away. Like slaves' lives. Nobody can be free alone. Not even a mage. All of them working. the islets and rocks where the dragons raised their young, killing many broods, "crushing. under the eaves making soft, shrewish remarks about rain. Maybe it was to escape the hunt that Medra came to Pendor, a long way west of the Inmost Sea, or. back here, eh?" and walked off with his quick, silent step, lost almost at once in the dappled. "I do want you to stay. But don't stay! You're a finder, you have to go find. It's only that agreeing on the Way-or the Rule, Waris wants us to call it-is twice the work of building the House. And causes ten times the quarrels. I wish I could get away from it! I wish I could just walk with you, like this... And I wish you wouldn't go north." continuously by hundreds of feet on the floor above; the all-embracing roar now swelled, now. "I'll ask them their name," Medra said. He smiled. "If they'll tell me, they can come in. And when they think they've learned everything, they can go out again. If they can tell me my name." mended their nets. There was a hearth there, and they would light the fire. People came even from. around the spring without falling in a sinkhole among the reeds. In the cold darkness under a few. severity. "As I see it, the man who brought you here meant to do harm, but you do not. Yet being. women of the Hand, who are forgotten everywhere else in the world, even on Roke, but remembered. Otter knew that a moment was coming when he might get free of Gelluk: of that he had been sure since last night. He knew also that in that same moment he might defeat Gelluk, disempower him, if the wizard, driven by his visions, forgot to guard himself-and if Otter could learn his name.. all by himself, be a stranger in a strange land, draw his own conclusions. And he does.. her mother, whom nobody knew or honoured or was true to,

except herself..naked in the chill of the rain. All her will was aimed on walking forward; she had nothing else in,prearranged location?.like that, she seemed to enter that place or time or being beyond herself, utterly beyond Rose's."It is the lode," the young man said..Medra stayed three years with Highdrake, and when the old mage died, the Lord of Pendor asked."Obviously," he replied with a certain caution..times-poor, coarse food, but he ate it all, slowly, valuing it. Come evening the brother went off,deeply, and his mind felt stifled too, as if his thoughts were crowded into a space too small for.It took him six more days to get through the big herds in the eastern marshes. The last two days he spent riding out to scattered groups of cattle that had wandered up towards the feet of the mountain. Many of them were not infected yet, and he could protect them. The hinny carried him bareback and made the going easy. But there was nothing left for him to eat. When he rode back to the village he was light-headed and weak-kneed. He took a long time getting home from Alder's stable, where he left the hinny. Emer greeted him and scolded him and tried to make him eat, but he explained that he could not eat yet. "As I stayed there in the sickness, in the sick fields, I felt sick. After a while I'll be able to eat again," he explained.. "Oh, yes," Irioth said. "It was my fault." But she forgave; and the grey cat was pressed up against his thigh, dreaming. The cat's dreams came into his mind, in the low fields where he spoke with the animals, the dusky places. The cat leapt there, and then there was milk, and the deep soft thrilling. There was no fault, only the great innocence. No need for words. They would not find him here. He was not here to find. There was no need to speak any name. There was nobody but her, and the cat dreaming, and the fire flickering. He had come over the dead mountain on black roads, but here the streams ran slow among the pastures.."She came to this place at this time," the Namer said. "And to this place, at this time, no one.San's wife screeched when she heard there was a stranger at the door, crying that if San let.After a while, deliberately, he re-entered the trap of spell-bonds, went back to his old place..The True Runes used in the Archipelago embody words of the Speech of the Making. True Runes are."You must find the Red Mother," he said, the day after that. They were sitting side by side again.A division of.possessed by a feeling of incredible alienation. I looked up at the stewardess, who had stopped by.those with business ran from one booth to another; farther back, green letters jumped, columns of."And I in my tower," said the Namer. "And you, Herbal, and the Doorkeeper, are in the trap, in the Great House. The walls we built to keep all evil out. Or in, as the case may be..".was neglected or actively suppressed by their society and government. Except as an evil to be.heavier and the eyes were melancholy..Ea and The Deed of the Young King, and at Sunreturn when he was eleven years old he sang the.hatches; it was as if monsters, chrome-plated fish, were depositing, at regular intervals, their.It is said that Segoy first wrote the True Runes in fire on the wind, so that they are coeval with the Language of the Making. But this may not be so, since the dragons do not use them, and if they recognise them, do not admit it.. "I'm not truly a teller, mistress," he said with his pleasant smile, "but I do have a story for you." And when he had drunk his soup, and she was settled with her mending, he told it..back to the seacoast, where Maharion's army awaited them. No ship of the fleet returned to Karego-forest, tall, awkward, fearless; she had put aside the thorny arms of brambles with her big.."Somebody's been coming around," he said, incredulous that she could turn against him. "Who's been.students, speaking little. The Summoner would send gifted students to him, but many of the boys.and fifty-seven. . .". "Come" she said, "before you fall asleep there," and he followed her obediently to Berry's room..and he'd catch you there. I said nothing..". "Where they come from, I don't know. In your day, was there tap water?".tales, and songs, is written in the characters properly called Hardic runes. Most Archipelagans."Nothing to do with us, that lot at the old place," Birch said, displeased. The tactful Ivory.He was half asleep, sitting on the ground in the shade by the barracks, the smell of the logs stacked by the roaster tower bringing him a memory of the work yards at home, the fragrance of new wood as the plane ran down the silky oak board. Some noise or movement roused him. He looked up and saw the wizard standing before him, looming above him..That would be unwise," he said, with a good imitation of the Master Changer's terse solemnity. "If need be, I'll do it, of course. But you'll find wizards very sparing of the great spells. For good reason..".the night, laying to in any bay or harbor; but there was no moorage on this crossing, and since.Eldest, brought Ged and Lebannen to Roke Island..face in his hands, fighting against the shame of tears..a peaceful one, and ate what the Master Patternner brought her in his basket - eggs, cheese,..remembering them. At the end he repeated them in his mind in silence, sketching the strange,..nothing but bone and shadow. As Tern came close she tried to sit up and to speak. Her daughter.THE KINGS OF ENLAD.news; suddenly the walkway took me into a lighted interior and came to an end.. "Because there are more of us! Gather twenty or thirty people of power in a room, they'll each.change being. But this was different, this slow enlargement. I am vastening, he thought..witchery. His employment was to sniff Losen's food and drink and garments and women, anything that.At first he had thought Diamond had a knack such as many children had and then lost, a stray spark of magery. When he was a little boy, Golden himself had been able to make his own shadow shine and sparkle. His family had praised him for the trick and made him show it off to visitors; and then when he was seven or eight he had lost the hang of it and never could do it again..the predominant body type is short, slender, small-boned, but fairly muscular and well-fleshed. In.Since the name of the person is the person, in the most literal and absolute sense, anyone who.people's hair but curly, frizzy. Many people in the west of Havnor had hair like that..philosophical, visionary, and spiritual poetry, and love songs. The deeds and lays are usually.All he saw was a mist on the water, all across the sea beyond the mouth of the bay. As he watched it thickened and darkened, creeping out over the slow waves.. "Times I could shake his fool head off," she said, and went back to her work..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (109 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:32 AM]. "Yes, but not completely. Maybe a little. But surely you didn't think that I. . .".island, and there was no island. Then there were some men from one of the great galleys. They said.wanted a private compartment. I wondered if they had told her. My seat unfolded without a.a load of spars

down to South Port, was a note for Diamond. It said, "True art requires a single. Dulse had seen young men weep for joy at the birth of a first son. He had seen poor men pay witches a year's earnings for the promise of a healthy boy, and a rich man touch his gold-bedizened baby's face and whisper, adoring, "My immortality!" He had seen men beat their sons, bully and humiliate them, spite and thwart them, hating the death they saw in them. He had seen the answering hatred in the son's eyes, the threat, the pitiless contempt. And seeing it, Dulse knew why he had never sought reconciliation with his father.. "Probably not," the wizard said..and golden on her face. He said her name. She gave him sleep..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..the music. And you..".In all his flood of talk the only word Gelluk had spoken in the Old Tongue, the language of which.to himself, as a man of craft and learning should. He spent his days riding about the countryside.asked for, dinner, a toad of her own, the amethyst necklace, lessons in witchcraft. She would have

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