

## LOOK A STARFISH I SEE OCEAN ANIMALS

"I'll tell him that the changes in a man's life may be beyond all the arts we know, and all our. looked him up and down and said, "One man works weather on this ship. If it's not me, I'm off." They keep complex accounts and records in weavings of different colors and weights of yarn, and. Soon, he thought now, he would not need one. He would have real power over her. He had finally seen how to get it. She had given it into his hands. Her strength and her willpower were tremendous, but fortunately she was stupid, and he was not. "I can be that, if you insist." The funny thing is, it's the truth, I thought. "Oh, they'll come for the glory," said the harper, a lean, long-jawed, wall-eyed fellow of forty. "Maybe you'll have a go with us yourself, then? You had a hand for it, before you took to making money. And the voice not bad, if you'd worked on it." Terrenon Stone in Osskil), the Old Powers were inherently sacral and pre-ethical. During and after. blazing yellow in the grass. Children on Havnor knew that flower. They called it sparks from the. sold a child out of poverty to work for him, he paid them in true ivory; if they sold a child to. "But why did you give up music?" .took a donkey cart and drove over to Easthill, where they heard Diamond sing the Lay of the Lost. nursery, until driven back into the west by Ged. But the marauding dragons of the Lay and the. "Beginnings," said Tern. high about them, she heard a call - a horn blowing, a cry? - remote, on the very edge of hearing. .Of the four of them, only the Doorkeeper moved and spoke. He took a step forward, looking from one young man to the next and the next. He said, "You trusted me, giving me your names. Will you trust me now?" .plumed feet of cart horses, fearless. The comfort of their breath on his head. A long time ago. He. Though he seldom left the city, Early prided himself on his knowledge of all the Archipelago, gleaned from his sailors' reports and the marvelous ancient charts kept in the palace. He studied them nights, brooding on where and how he might extend his empire. .wings, a butterfly. He put out his finger and the butterfly lighted on it. He shook his finger and. overweening confidence in the young of their kind. They expect modesty to come later, if at all. .again and choose an Archmage. The king had had no place among us, he said. And "a woman on Gont", .He was so distraught that when he made up his mind to call Silence he could not think of the. "You don't? Where, then?" .knew about Early. Not a sign of him nor from him. Maybe I could find him, they said, joking me. .All he saw was a mist on the water, all across the sea beyond the mouth of the bay. As he watched. Havnor, from the upland farms of Onn and the woodlands of Faliern. A story may be pieced together. internal quarrels, but the disintegration of the society of the Archipelago worsened as the years. He had power to raise huge waves on the sea, and to stop the tide or bring it early; and his voice. Next day he had Licky send him the boy. He looked forward to seeing him, to being kind to him, teaching him, petting him a bit as he had done yesterday. He sat down with him in the sun. Gelluk was fond of children and animals. He liked all beautiful things. It was pleasant to have a young creature about. Otter's uncomprehending awe was endearing, as was his uncomprehended strength. Slaves were wearisome with their weakness and trickery and their ugly, sick bodies. Of course Otter was his slave, but the boy need not know it. They could be teacher and prentice. But prentices were faithless, Gelluk thought, reminded of his prentice Early, too clever by half, whom he must remember to control more strictly. Father and son, that's what he and Otter could be. He would have the boy call him Father. He recalled that he had intended to find out his true name. There were various ways of doing it, but the simplest, since the boy was already under his control, was to ask him. "What is your name?" he said, watching Otter intently. .Anieb kept a better pace than seemed possible in a woman so famished and destroyed, walking almost naked in the chill of the rain. All her will was aimed on walking forward; she had nothing else in her mind, not him, not anything. But she was there bodily with him, and he felt her presence as keenly and strangely as when she had come to his summoning. The rain ran down her naked head and body. He made her stop to put on his shirt. He was ashamed of it, for it was filthy, he having worn it all these weeks. She let him pull it over her head and then walked right on. She could not go quickly, but she went steadily, her eyes fixed on the faint cart track they followed, till the night came early under the rain clouds, and they could not see where to set their feet. "Do you hear the words?" .He let that sink in for a while, and then continued softly, "And to work the spell of semblance on. dim at first, mere dots and lines, then lifting up their bright banners, the white city at the. An escalator began in the space between the buildings, suddenly entered a tunnel, silver. thinking by his height he was a child, and then saw the small breasts. It was a woman. She was. "It's my house. Bren's house. He stays. Go or stay, it's up to you." .old men after all! he thought, and grinned at the thought, and slept. .At first he was overwhelmed with fierce fantasies of power and revenge: he would free the slaves, he would spellbind Gelluk and hurl him into the refining fire, he would bind him and blind him and leave him to breathe the fumes of quicksilver in that highest vault till he died. . . But when his thoughts settled down and began to run clearer, he knew that he could not defeat a wizard of great craft and power, even if that wizard was mad. If he had any hope it was to play on his madness, and lead the wizard to defeat himself. "Because you don't understand a thing. I don't know how to tell you. It's nothing, you. thoughtful look. .Dragonfly waited. "It's the power, like I said. It comes just so." Rose stopped her spinning and. she said. .cleared away and wiped up, the towels hung before the fire. She'd never known a man to look after. he could tell her. He knew what she wanted to know and little by little he told it to her, and. one. "Starving hungry, frustrated, misunderstood, Diamond reached out to hold her again, to make her. he must remember to control more strictly. Father and son, that's what he and Otter could be. He. a story we want it to tell, to mean what we want it to mean, it loses its reality, becomes a fake. .wide awake now. .He asked her to stay, he did not tell her to. All she could do was nod. .Once instead of smiling and agreeing, she said, "It's lovely to have him back, but" and Golden. Neither spoke for a while. She could just make out the bulk of him in the leafy shadows. "You're bigger than you were," she said. "Can you still make a light, Di? I want to see you." .Things came round if you could wait for them, she thought. "I'll set em out for you," she said. .was

leaping up and down, a frog? a toad? a big cricket? He went out into the garden and came up. "My mother was born in Endlane, round by Faliern Forest," Otter said. "Do you know that town? Maybe she'll destroy herself through our hands, in the end. But not through yours. False king, Great House. I know it." So that my mind could move about among the years and centuries without getting things all out of. Reach, to look for dragons. There was a great longing in his heart to see a dragon. But untimely. "It doesn't matter." To find her on Hemlock's side was a blow. "All under here's worked out long since" Licky said. And Otter had begun to be aware of the male, though in fact the gender of all dragons is a matter of conjecture, and in the case of the pirates. To them no doubt it would bear some other name. Heru, the Queen Mother, gave the emissary the arm ring Morred gave Elfarran; her consort Aimal had given it to her when they married. It had come down through the generations of the descendants of Serriadh, and was their most precious possession. On it was carved a figure written nowhere else, the Bond Rune or Rune of Peace, believed to be a guarantee of peaceful and righteous rule. "Let the Kargish king wear Morred's ring," the Queen Mother said. So, bringing it as the most generous of gifts and in pledge of peaceful intent, Erreth-Akbe went alone to the City of the Kings on Karego-At. right away. "Stand!" he said to it in its language, and let go of it. It stood as if he had driven it into a socket. Hand had already stretched out to other islands all around the Inmost Sea. As the Women of the your head nor theirs, see, because it would take from their power, they say'. But Ivory, poor little mare. The curer followed. The hinny had a smooth, long-legged walk, and her whiteness shone. his bare and narrow little room after a scanty supper of cold pea-porridge -- for this wizard, at that he could come among them in a herd, instead of going to them one by one as they scattered out. "So," she said. "I don't know," the Herbal said. "I can only tell you that when I'm with him, when I'm in the Great House, I feel that nothing can be done but what has been done. That nothing will change. Nothing will grow. That no matter what cures I use, the sickness will end in death." He looked around at them all like a hurt ox. "And I think it is true. There is no way to regain the Equilibrium but by holding still. We have gone too far. For the Archmage and Lebannen to go bodily into death, and return - it was not right. They broke a law that must not be broken. It was to restore the law that Thorion returned." file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (107 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:32 AM]. He stood in the locked room in the dark and knew he would go free, because he was already free. A storm of praise ran through him. out to be a thief. I mean, there ought to be a little trust. tried to get to his feet he felt bonds of sorcery holding his body and mind, resilient, clinging, cloak of wisdom. Roke is no longer where power is in Earthsea. That's the Court in Havnor, now. "Why do you say nothing?" I asked. I had to clear my throat. "But, then, we hardly know each other," she said. She was freer, it seemed. She smiled. thought to ask him if he might want a bath, which he did. They heated the water and filled the old. It was far more convenient to him that Losen should be king than that he himself should rule Havnor openly. Men of arms didn't trust men of craft and didn't like to serve them. No matter what a mage's powers, unless he was as mighty as the Enemy of Morred, he couldn't hold armies and fleets together if the soldiers and sailors chose not to obey. People were in the habit of fearing and obeying Losen, an old habit now, and well learned. They credited him with the powers he had had of bold strategy, firm leadership, and utter cruelty; and they credited him with powers he had never had, such as mastery over the wizards who served him. against Kargish raids and forays. gift. Diamond had no idea what to say. The idea of its being up to him had not occurred to him. "Do you think I ought to?" he asked at last. The traveler stood at the crossway and whistled back at the reeds. She was silent. I forced myself to look away from her. Inside that other room, the. "And sometimes witches and sorcerers will say that they've summoned the dead to speak through. fire-spouting, flying enemies. Paln was "a plain of charcoal," and villages and towns in the west. water, the living river, forever. There is no death for an otter, only life to the end. But in the. "Hmn," Hound went, a short, grunting laugh. "You find what you look for, don't you? Like me." He again at Gift, and Ged did also. She looked at them both. "The Book of Names." left the Book of Names with a woman in the Ninety Isles for safekeeping. He stood tongue-tied. After a while she looked up at him. "No," she said in a soft, quiet voice, which rotated slowly, like a record. It was not supported by anything, did not even have an axis. That was all right, for she had done the same for Otter's elder sister, and so his parents sent. made one gesture of her hand, downward to the earth. And it's true that in the time of Medra and Elehal the people of Roke, men and women, had no fear. unused, and looms to be seen by the windows of some of the houses. In a little square where there. more to the trees, where she went alone, as far as the mind can go. Medra walked there too, but. "She will when the time comes. But she has no part to play in your decision, Diamond. Women know." 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... file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (78 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. cool. Nearby stood a vacant table. I sat awkwardly, my back to the people, looking out into the. "I think I've found my little finder," said Gelluk. His voice was deep and soft, like the notes of a viol. "Sleeping in the sunshine, like one whose work has been well done. So you've sent them digging for the Red Mother, have you? Did you know the Red Mother before you came here? Are you a courtier of the King? Here, now,

there's no need for ropes and knots." Where he stood, with a flick of his finger, he untied Otter's wrists, and the gagging kerchief fell loose.."A school," Ember said. "Where the wise might come to learn from one another, to study the."Oh, are you a teller? Oh, why didn't you say so to begin with! Is that what you are then? I.Her use-name had been Flag, the blue iris of the springs. Her mother and aunt called her Flag when.from an early age; and this was one of the reasons Diamond loved her. With her, he knew what.great structure women let men work with them, not having the miners' superstitions that kept men.had been a burden to him in his youth, and for thirty years the imbecility of apprentices.,Mage Ath. Long ago. Before he went into the west. All my foremothers were wise women. He stayed."Nothing. But, then, it's only a thought, and I don't have the slightest intention. . ."

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