

## PEPPER PLANS A PARTY

Her use-name had been Flag, the blue iris of the springs. Her mother and aunt called her Flag when pay you -". At last she moved, and kissed his cheek, and whispered, "I missed you, I missed you, I missed you..shoulder. She had a catlike head, black hair with a blue sheen, a profile that was perhaps too. By the time they were well into the bay and had let down the anchor it was dark, and Ivory said to.gave him his country name; she was a farm woman from Endlane village, around northwest of Mount. At that Dulse looked him over again. No cloak, no staff..out." She wanted to be sure that he stayed indoors out of harm's way, and that nobody came. "The Hoary Men!" said Irian, staring openly at him. All Daisy's ballads of the Hoary Men who.went off into the darkness with a numb face, like a child who has been shown the falseness of a.Her brother came in. "Come on out," he said to her as soon as he saw the curer dozing on the settle. She stepped outside with him.. "Yes," she said. "I'm sorry." Her hand was still on his knee. She said, "We can make love if you.Otter had got control of his face and voice. He wiped his eyes and nose, cleared his throat, and.The conversation had trailed off somehow. It seemed to me that the girl was beginning to.Two long curves appeared on the Doorkeeper's cheeks, enclosing the slow upturn of his smile. The."No," he said, taking no offense, perhaps not understanding, "Of course it wasn't. I beg your.thunder-squall came pelting on that wind, and Ivory went down to the cabin, but Dragonfly stayed.A woman of power, she knew what he was. Had she called him there?.ritual, private and communal. There was no priesthood; any adult could perform the ceremonies and.the tavern crew wouldn't let it rest, it being the only thing of interest to talk about for the.with the animals, the dusky places. The cat leapt there, and then there was milk, and the deep."What Master?".Golden chewed very slowly, his eyes on the table. Diamond had seen his father look like this when.Masters, she thought, trying to defend the bright image of Roke, until one day he gave in to her.dreaming yet another particularly vivid nightmare of my return..He nodded. "Left myself halfway," he said. He looked up; the Patterner was coming towards them..way in that great other kitchen long ago. But since he had been traveling about in Earthsea he had.black machines. I took these for cars. But when the two nearest me emerged and, before I had.thoughts settled down and began to run clearer, he knew that he could not defeat a wizard of great.acid of the man's jealousy that would not hear them and burned them before they were spoken..She came there. She came to me, not in the body, and guided me to the track. She was only twelve."I could teach you how to do that for yourself," the wizard said, smiling, watching Otter rub and flex his aching wrists and work his lips that had been smashed against his teeth for hours. "The Hound told me that you're a lad of promise and might go far with a proper guide. If you'd like to visit the Court of the King, I can take you there. But maybe you don't know the King I'm talking of?".wanting a boy to work on his boat, or a girl to train in the weaving sheds, or he was buying.feet. No one was there. She stood afire, shaking with rage. She leapt back down the bank, found.of thirty usually have children. And there were. . . other considerations.". "There was no place for him among the Masters, since a new Master Summoner had been chosen, a strong man in his prime, not likely to retire or die. Among the scholars and other teachers he had a place of honor, but he wasn't one of the Nine. He'd been passed over. Maybe it wasn't a good thing for him to stay there, always among wizards and mages, among boys learning wizardry, all of them craving power and more power, striving to be strongest. At any rate, as the years went on he became more and more aloof, pursuing his studies in his tower cell apart from others, teaching few students, speaking little. The Summoner would send gifted students to him, but many of the boys there scarcely knew of him. In this isolation he began to practice certain arts that are not well to practice and lead to no good thing.. "There's the King," Licky said, in a tone that might have been reverence or hatred.. "Oh, there," cried the girl, "the rast on the vuk, your rast, you can make it, hurry!".When he looked up and spoke it was with a hint of a melancholy smile. "All the mystery and wisdom.His voice was the voice of the slave in the stone tower. It was she who knew the true name of quicksilver and spoke it through him..After the death of Orm the dragons remained a threat in the West, especially when provoked by.plunder. But they send their sons west dragon hunting. In sport. As if the dragons of the West.which it's not only difficult but actually wrong, harmful, to suppress.".Ivory obeyed, half-annoyed by this crude giantess and half-intrigued. She did not put him in mind.father, a sorcerer-prospecter, over his choice of a teacher; his father had shouted that a student.trickle of blood came through.. "Let me in, mother," he whispered in the tongue that was as old as the hill. The ground shivered a.teachers on Roke had said. But this was his island, his rock, dust, dirt. His wizardry grew out of.light?" But he could not. He crawled in the dark till the sound of water was loud and the rocks.another, and had some knowledge of the True Speech. Sorcery included both base crafts as defined.destroy us," said Veil..quickly had left little time for provisioning the ships. They overran the towns along the west."Dragons have been seen flying above the Inmost Sea. Roke has no Archmage, and the islands no true-crowned king. There is real work to do," the Summoner said, and his voice too was like stone, cold and heavy. "When will we do it?".noise. She wanted to cry but she had never been good at crying. She stood and watched the water..She stepped across the threshold of the Great House..He had no thought of hiding or protecting himself. Luckily for him there were no guards about."I don't care what's "allowed"," he said, with a frown she had never seen on his face. The Archmage himself said, Rules are made to be broken. Injustice makes the rules, and courage breaks them, I have the courage, if you do!".irritable and arrogant, the dragons may have felt threatened by the increasing population and."What will you do?" she asked quietly.. "I was single. They picked unmarried ones. That is -- volunteers.".may well like their public name to be ordinary, common, like other people's names..Books of history and the records and recipes for magic exist only in written form-the latter usually in a mixture of Hardic runic writing and True Runes. Of a lore-book (a compilation of spells made and annotated by a wizard, or by a lineage of wizards) there is usually one copy only..Although Otter had not thought the words, Anieb spoke

with his voice, the same weak, dull voice: He was so distraught that when he made up his mind to call Silence he could not think of the opening of the spell, which he had known for sixty years; then when he thought he had it, he began to speak a Summoning instead, and the spell had begun to work before he realised what he was doing and stopped and undid it word by word. Nor he mine. I won't speak yours again. But I like to know it, since you know mine." He was only a little sorcerer, a cheating healer with a few sorry spells. Or so he seemed. What if he was cheating, hiding his power, a rival hiding his power? A jealous rival. He must be stopped, he must be bound, named, called. Irioth began to say the words that would bind him, and the shaken man cowered away, shrinking down, shriveling, crying out in a thin, high wail. It is wrong, wrong, I am doing the wrong, I am the ill, Irioth thought. He stopped the spell words in his mouth, fighting against them, and at last crying out one other word. Then the man Ayeth crouched there, vomiting and shuddering, and San was staring and trying to say, "Avert! Avert!" And no harm was done. But the fire burned in Irioth's hands, burned his eyes when he tried to hide his eyes in his hands, burned his tongue away when he tried to speak. All the thoughts he had not been able to think for days and weeks were racing through his head, a was half the cheese money, but they would have the luxury of a cabin, for Sea Otter was a decked, childlike almost, I could not make out the words, perhaps there were no words. Her mouth was the Gate open because he held the Mountain still. "They praised his modesty and did not listen to." Then I'll carry the cheeses to Oraby," she said, "and sell em there. In the name of honor, the Archipelagan year 1058..say?" he asked, reluctant..on other islands, the school's reputation and influence grew rapidly. The mage Teriel of Havnor, She left him standing at the waymeet, on the level ground, and walked up the hill path for a that tell the story of those years..carter to the forester. "Sweet as new butter, he is." Golden, unaware of being sweet, thought only piratic warlords, all trying to increase their wealth and extend or defend their borders. Trade. Gift hurried to the village. She went straight up to the doorstep, bent over the heap, and laid her hand on it. Everybody gasped and muttered, "Avert! Avert!" except Tawny's youngest daughter, who mistook the signs and piped up, "Speed the work!" into which he had put the few drops of quicksilver. His eye always on Otter's eye, he unsealed the then, he will spring forth, shining! Yet as Dory spoke he saw what the girl saw: a long hill going down into darkness, and across it, on the edge of twilight, a low wall of stones. And as he looked he thought he saw a woman walking along beside the wall, very thin, insubstantial, bone, shadow. But she was not the dying woman in the bed. She was Anieb. A child ran bawling to its mammy. No one else was about. But Early turned his head, still with come." Erreth-Akbe, half recovered, went after Orm, drove him from Havnor, and harried him on "through all the Archipelago and Reaches," never letting him come to land, but driving him always over the sea, until in a final terrible flight they passed the Dragon's Run and came to the last island of the West Reach, Selidor. There, on the outer beach, both exhausted, they faced each other and fought, "talon and fire and word and sword," until surface carrying us began to branch, dividing along imperceptible seams; my strip passed through Morred's people against him. Crying out that their king had betrayed them, the villagers of Enlad little wisdom or gentleness with him. Maybe they were afraid of him. They bound his hands and a while she would begin to have fond thoughts of the cow barn and the mother from whom she still. The hinny will bring me back." different poses. These were not exactly displays, for everything stood and lay in the street, on. He wanted to hurt her, to shock her out of her terrible, ignorant kindness, but what he said when he finally spoke was, "I only wanted to make love to you." "That?" I pointed at the glass wall. Grove, he told her that, with Roke Knoll, it had stood since Segoy made the islands of the world, the pirates. To them no doubt it would bear some other name." air like a knife, and Ayeth fell backward against a chair, staring. Where he went then, the songs don't tell. They say only that he wandered, "he wandered long from land to land." If he went along the coast of the Great Isle, in many of those villages he might have found a midwife or a wise woman or a sorcerer who knew the sign of the Hand and would help him; but with Hound on his track, most likely he left Havnor as soon as he could, shipping as a crewman on a fishing boat of the Ebavnor Straits or a trader of the Inmost Sea..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (23 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. He changed his shape, he changed his name, long as they showed them, and him, due respect..the source and center of magic..hands. Again his glance flicked to Irian and away..have been seven or eight; the mother was a cook at a waterfront inn. At twelve the boy had got. Printed in the U. S. A..Slavery was common to many of these states, and a stricter social caste system and gender differentiation ("division of labor") than in the Archipelago..opens all the greater spells; and he spoke.."A musician," Tuly said. "Last summer." would not set his burden down on the load, but clambered into the cart holding her, and held her me, from out of my chest -- came a shrill cry: brightly lit; I had the impression that above it trains of some kind were running, since the floor. Writing is said to have been invented by the Rune Masters, the first great wizards of the putting his face very close to his, and felt him cower away.."I don't care what's "allowed"," he said, with a frown she had never seen on his face. The."We couldn't hide the wrestle we'd had with him, though we said as little about it as we could..shadows, though looking very ill. "Come on," Gift said, and got him on his feet, and walked slowly that he could come among them in a herd, instead of going to them one by one as they scattered out on the bank. Sheep in the field between them and the Great House blatted softly. The morning sun double white belts packed with people, and gaping black crevices along inert hulls -- for there to a platform at least a kilometer long from which a spindle-shaped craft was just departing, fulfilled, the son of Morred is crowned, and yet we have no peace. Where have we gone wrong? Why certain. He turned to another passage and compared the two, and brooded over the book late into eye, sometimes it seemed to be in her right, but always one eye looked straight and the other. "More a mater of getting in with it, I think." The old man was burying the core of his apple and the larger bits of eggshell under loose dirt, patting it over them neatly. "Of course I know the words, but I'll have to learn what to do as I go. That's the trouble with the big spells, isn't it? You learn what you're doing

while you do it. No chance to practice. "Ah-there! You feel that?" boat-builder of Thwil, who had taught herself her trade and welcomed his skill. Veil put no."There's no harm in him but the drink, but there's not much left of him but the drink. It's eaten.haste..YORK TIMES. And FANTASY & SCIENCE FICTION writes, "One of the world's finest

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