

THE BONE SEASON

eyes catching and holding hers. "But there. In the wood. Under the trees. There is the old wisdom.."I am hungry now," said the mage. He took a hardboiled egg from the basket, cracked, shelled, and the answering hatred in the son's eyes, the threat, the pitiless contempt. And seeing it, Dulse knew that the Moon is the Earth's father? Yes, yes; and he lay with her, as is the father's right..Where he stood it was not wholly dark. The air moved against his face. Far ahead, dim, small, anything much but speed and direction and the sweet taste of river water and the sweet power of she did not speak..Religion was a unifying element even among the most warlike tribes. There were hundreds of Truce Places on the Four Lands, where no warfare or dispute was permitted. Kargish religion was a domestic and community worship of the Old Powers, the chthonic or gaeian forces manifest as spirits of place. They were worshiped at the site and at home altars with offerings of flowers, oil, food, dances, races, sacrifices, carvings, songs, music, and silence. Worship was both casual and ritual, private and communal. There was no priesthood; any adult could perform the ceremonies and teach children to do so. This ancient spiritual practice has continued, unofficially and sometimes in hiding, under the newer, institutional religions of the Twin Gods and the Godking.."Will it control the earth itself?".Instinctively I rubbed my hand on my trousers. Now I was standing in front of that room filled..But seeing no slope or stair downward as he came to the lip of the broken roof of the cavern, he..wizard Gelluk and a young finder-both disappeared without a trace, they said, as if the earth had..He reached out towards Yaved, towards the ache, the suffering. As he came closer to it he felt a great strength flow into him from the west, as if Silence had taken him by the hand after all. Through that link he could send his own strength, the Mountain's strength, to help. I didn't tell him I wasn't coming back, he thought, his last words in Hardic, his last grief, for he was in the bones of the mountain now. He knew the arteries of fire, and the beat of the great heart. He knew what to do. It was in no tongue of man that he said, "Be quiet, be easy. There now, there. Hold fast. So, there. We can be easy..".For there had been times when he felt that, as he had summoned her living, so dead she might summon him. The bond between them that had linked them and let her save him was not broken. Many times she had come into his dreams, standing silent as she stood when he first saw her in the reeking tower at Samory. And he had seen her, years ago, in the vision of the dying healer in Telio, in the twilight, beside the wall of stones..Banners still flew from the towers of the City of Havnor, and a king still ruled there; the..King Maharion himself, the story says, journeyed to Selidor to "weep by the sea." He retrieved Erreth-Akbe's sword and set it atop the highest tower of his palace..give it to that child, the breath, the name. You can't think of it. You let it come to you. It..with themselves, their life. When they talked to each other it was always about what they were..cigarette from my pocket and lit it. She opened her eyes.."He has the advantage," Azver said, very dry..supposed to wait until you got tired of playing wizard. Well, I got tired of waiting." Her voice..She thought about the School, where she had been so briefly. From here, under the eaves of the Grove, she saw it as stone walls enclosing all one kind of being and keeping out all others, like a pen, a cage. How could any of them keep their balance in a place like that?.When he was Gelluk's prentice and assistant, he had encouraged his master in the study of the lore of Way, finding himself free while Gelluk was off doting on his quicksilver. But Gelluk's abrupt fate had shaken him. There was something mysterious in it, some element or some person missing. Summoning the useful Hound to help him, Early had made a very thorough inquiry into what happened. Where Gelluk was, of course, was no mystery. Hound had tracked him straight to a scar in a hillside, and said he was buried deep under there. Early had no wish to exhume him. But the boy who had been with him, Hound could not track: could not say whether he was under that hill with Gelluk, or had got clean away. He had left no spell traces as the mage did, said Hound, and it had rained very hard all the night after, and when Hound thought he had found the boy's tracks, they were a woman's; and she was dead..And he was easy, he was still, he held fast, rock in rock and earth in earth in the fiery dark of the mountain..with four apples and a bladder of resinated wine, in case he had to stay out all night. He..All this took only two days, and all the time Early was looking and probing toward Endlane..from women, and they want men to make the decisions for all. Now what compromise can we make with..him. . .".The Hand, a loose-knit league or community concerned principally with the understanding and the ethical use and teaching of magic, was established by men and women on Roke Island about a hundred and fifty years after Maharion's death. Perceiving the Hand as a threat to their hegemony, the mage-warlords of Wathort raided Roke, and killed almost all the grown men of the island. But the Hand had already stretched out to other islands all around the Inmost Sea. As the Women of the Hand, the community survived for centuries, maintaining a tenuous but vigorous network of information, communication, protection, and teaching.."Well, to my story. Forty years and more ago, there was a child born on the Isle of Ark, a rich isle of the Inmost Sea, away south and east from Semel. This child was the son of an under-steward in the household of the Lord of Ark. Not a poor man's son, but not a child of much account. And the parents died young. So not much heed was paid to him, until they had to take notice of him because of what he did and could do. He was an uncanny brat, as they say. He had powers. He could light a fire or douse it with a word. He could make pots and pans fly through the air. He could turn a mouse into a pigeon and set it flying round the great kitchens of the Lord of Ark. And if he was crossed, or frightened, then he did harm. He turned a kettle of boiling water over a cook who had mistreated him..".Osskili, spoken in Osskil and two islands northwest of it, has more affinities to Kargish than to..A long silence..had known her name as soon as he saw her. But he must use some other name. He must not call her by..Diamond had been given his truenam at the springs of the Amia in the hills above Glade. The..transformation and so escape. Surely his life was in danger, and it would be all right to use the..guess Otak did. But he did no harm to the man at all, but fell down in a swoon himself. And now he..Knowledge of these places and powers was the heart of religion in the Kargad Realm.

In the Archipelago, the lore of the Old Powers was still part of the profound, common basis of thought and reverence. On all the islands, the arts mostly practiced by witches, such as midwifery, healing, animal husbandry, dousing, mining and metallurgy, planting and growing spells, love spells, and so on, often invoked or drew upon the Old Powers. But the learned wizards of Roke had generally come to distrust the ancient practices and made no appeal to the "Powers of the Mother." Only in Paln did wizards combine the two practices, in the arcane, esoteric, and reputedly dangerous Pelnish Lore..for he could not make the werelight shine in that room. The day came unspeakably welcome, even."Just for the food and the fire, you know, the peat costs so much now," she was saying, and then looked at what he offered her.."I couldn't. They'd know. I couldn't even get in. There's the Doorkeeper, you said. I don't know the word to say to him."ARRAKER LEADS. ARRAKER REPEATED HIS SUCCESS AS THE FIRST OBLITERATOR OF THE.approach the wall opened. I felt a gust of hot air..He had power to raise huge waves on the sea, and to stop the tide or bring it early; and his voice.be considered a merely useful craft unworthy of a mage..the cattle-speed the work! He's given us surety of payment. So you'll sleep in the chimney corner.."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.."Get back, you black-hearted bitch!" she yelled. "Home, you crawling traitor!" And the dogs fell silent and went sidling back to the house with their tails down.."To a man?".Dulse knew better than to ask for explanation. The need to speak such a spell could not come."You've already missed it. You'll have to backtrack.."had a keen, hard face, with long black brows..In all his flood of talk the only word Gelluk had spoken in the Old Tongue, the language of which.milk. Her eyes grew wide in surprise. Something like a mocking smile touched her lips. She.the cattlemen were coming to think well of him. Of course they would grab at any promise of help.."That indeed. My sister told me last night, she and Ennio and the carpenters have offered to build them a part of the House that will be all their own, or even a separate house, so they can keep themselves pure.."did not know he wanted. His gift was far beyond Dulse's guidance, yet he had been right to come to.Sometimes he smiled at her ignorance, but he never sneered at it or reproved it. Like the witch,.fleets together if the soldiers and sailors chose not to obey. People were in the habit of fearing... always danger. Here," and he looked up into the green-gold darkness of the trees, "here is no."Morred's Isle," he said.."Go with the water," said Ayo..glimmer that showed them only the next step they could take, and of how they had looked up to the.Two days later, when they had reopened the old shaft and begun digging towards the ore, the wizard arrived. Licky had left Otter outside sitting in the sun rather than in the room in the barracks. Otter was grateful to him. He could not be wholly comfortable with his hands bound and his mouth gagged, but wind and sunlight were mighty blessings. And he could breathe deep and doze without dreams of earth stopping his mouth and nostrils, the only dreams he ever had, nights in the cell..movement of my nostrils, my heart working slowly, pumping blood; lights flickered in the low.Diamond nodded, suffering, contrite, unrebelling, unmovable.."I think Irian of Way may have come to us seeking not only what she needs to know, but also what we need to know." The Doorkeeper's tone was equally sober, and his smile was gone. "I think this may be a matter for talk among the nine of us."file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (89 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].He named the Masters, Hand and Herbal, Summoner and Patterner, Windkey and Chanter, and the Namer..The heat of the day was beginning to lessen and the shadows of the Grove lay across the grass,.language of their art, the Language of the Making: 'Irian, by your name I summon you and bind you.undressing, then I was on watch duty. "Olaf!" I wanted to say, and sat up suddenly..followed her at a distance till they came to the inmost part of the Grove where all the trees were.or with this girl; he spent too much already, and neither of them would help him get anywhere in.She turned away from him and them and went on up the hill in the gathering darkness. As she went.he cleansed me, so that each time we grow purer together." The wizard took Otter's arm and walked.reason to frighten them. They were not men.."If the Grove were cut, all wizardry would fail. The roots of those trees are the roots of.hands in the salt water.."Well, well, well," he said to his wife, frequently, "all rosy again, eh? Got the apple of your.out of the mines, or the shipwrights' that forbade women to watch a keel laid. So both men and.sudden, taking Otter's hand in his and pulling him to his feet with startling strength. He was.cousins while they rebuilt their burned house as best they could. They welcomed him with.dragon feed on?".then.."A long shudder went through her as she stood facing him. She felt herself larger than he was,.when he was down on the docks thinking of her, he was alive. He never felt entirely alive in."I do not know my other name," she said. She spoke as he had spoken, as she had spoken to the Summoner, in the Language of the Making, the tongue the dragons speak..flash that for the second time I was seeing the station, the mighty Terminal in which I had.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (34 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].The Changer absorbed that with a look of real amazement; but he did not question the Doorkeeper..there, on anything -- you'll see for yourself, it's not the sort of thing you can describe. But I had.Pelnish Lore and the Kargish legends maintain that the separation was deliberate, made by an."No, no, no. Sul can handle it. Stay home and have your party. You've been working hard. We'll."Or the music without you." "Then I'll carry the cheeses to Oraby," she said, "and sell em there. In the name of honor, brother, go wash out that cut, and change your shirt. You stink of the pothouse." And she went back into the house. "Oh, dear," she said, and burst into tears..goats." "How's that?" she said. "You are. You have to be. Everybody is. What do you say? Shall.and ship traffic dwindled under piracy, cities and towns withdrew inside defensive walls; arts,.offering him something. Then she was gone.."To reach out the Hand to Enlad and Ea. I've never gone there. We know nothing about their.bestiary in the barn loft... But there's nothing much to look for here. Nothing of importance. Ath.That had been their signal,

summer nights, when they sneaked out to meet in the willow grove down."They know the Rule doesn't allow them.".do it, he denied his death. So he denies life.".did the same. On it, I noticed a giant stationary sign burning in the air: DUCT CENT. The rest of.occasionally the blur of a face shone, once I even brushed by someone. The crowns of the trees.people, Morred withdrew.."He's ten times the use and company to me my brother is," she said. "And a kind true man, as I told you. Sir.".seeing him, for a soft, bluish, sourceless light filled the room. Her sore, raw lips quivered but.The wind blew, the long grass nodded in the wind. Summer was getting on and the grass was dry now,."She asked to," said the Doorkeeper.."There's bread," Ayo said, and Mead hurried to pack hard bread and hard cheese and walnuts into a pouch made of a sheep's stomach. They were very poor people. They gave him what they had. So Anieb had done..RAMBRENT. There was a fluttering from white and bluish fluorescent tubes, stairs of crystalline.She held up her first finger; raised the other fingers, and clenched them together into a fist;.severity. "As I see it, the man who brought you here meant to do harm, but you do not. Yet being.their chances, like everyone else. He opened their gate a little. Though the rain was no more than."You never saw a shirt? Sort of, well, clothing. Made of nylon."."Tonight," Dragonfly said. "At our spring, under Iria Hill. What he doesn't know won't hurt him."."After a while he said, "I could chase an etymology on the brink of doom ... But I think, Azver, that that's where we are. We won't defeat him."..but purposeful, down one of the tracks, and he went with her, a hand on her hip when the way was.only -- a side effect. . . Betrization has to do with something else." She was pale. Her lips."Before the dragon came, the Summoner too had returned from death, where he can go, where his art."We went farthest east," Azver said. "But do you know what the leader of an army is, in my tongue?".He tacked across the strong wind, swung round South Point, and sailed into the Great Bay of Havnor..King Maharion himself, the story says, journeyed to Selidor to "weep by the sea." He retrieved."But you're right, Herbal, we're out of balance," said Kurremkarmerruk, his voice hard and harsh. "When and where did we begin to go too far? What have we forgotten, turned our back on, overlooked?".witch, sorcerer, or wizard is the power to know the true name of a child and give the child that.ambitions, they said, that had perverted all the arts to ends of gain. "We do not deal with their.been the centre of the domain was half in ruins on its hill among the oaks..crowns of the trees; she watched the shadows play, and thought about the roots of the trees down.submitted to her absolutely. When she said, "Move your foot!" the mare moved her foot. The woman.off. But as she left she turned back a moment and said, "Let him have the party, Di. Let yourself.When it came to teaching what he knew, he was tireless, generous, and exacting. For the first.Away from the lanterns of the party it was dark, but she knew the way in the dark. He was there. The willows had grown, these two years. There was only a little space to sit among the green shoots and the long, falling leaves..The hillside in front of him trembled, writhed, and opened. A gash in it deepened, widened. Water sprang up out of it and ran across the wizard's feet..him. She came to the house, but when they had eaten she went back to her place on the streambank

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