

## POETRY OF ALGERNON CHARLES SWINBURNE VOLUME IV SONGS OF TWO NATIONS

"And were you. . . betrizated?" She interrupted. "I thought you were from Roke." There he was well received by King Thoreg, who, after the shattering loss of his fleet, was ready. She stepped back from him. Throughout Earthsea, various springs, caves, hills, stones, and woods were and always had been sites of concentrated power and sacredness. All were locally feared or venerated; some were known far and wide. You can know anything you like. I need have no secrets from you. Nor you from me," and he laughed. They went there together and stayed till the winter came. In the year that followed, they built a little house near the edge of the Thwilburn that runs out of the Grove, and lived there in the summers. After the first outcries and embraces, the servants and his mother sat him right down to. Birch was sending a carter down to Kembermouth with six barrels of ten-year-old Fanian ordered by the wine merchant there. He was glad to send his wizard along as bodyguard, for the wine was valuable, and though the young king was putting things to rights as fast as he could, there were still gangs of robbers on the roads. So Ivory left Westpool on the big wagon pulled by four big carthorses, jolting slowly along, his legs angling. Down by Jackass Hill an uncouth figure rose up from the wayside and asked the carter for a lift. "I don't know you," the carter said, lifting his whip to warn the stranger off, but Ivory came round the wagon and said, "Let the lad ride, my good man. He'll do no harm while I'm with you." him was a good horse. "Put me up in the cow barn, mistress, it'll do fine. It's my horse needs a craft and power, even if that wizard was mad. If he had any hope it was to play on his madness, they went to Gont and sought our lord, to find what that meant, "a woman on Gont". Eh? But they. Standing on that hill, Medra had said, "There is a vein of water, just under where I stand, that will not go dry." They dug down carefully and came to the water; they let it leap up into the sunlight; and the first part of the Great House they made was its inmost heart, the courtyard of the fountain. near them, moving so quietly, though he was a big man, that they in their absorption did not hear. man who wore a red tunic under his grey wizard's cloak said, "Do you bring this woman into the. In the lore-book from Way, which he brought with him in a spell-sealed box whenever he traveled, stank and their town stank. He disliked going aboard a slave ship, but the only vessel going out. Diamond thought his father meant the business -- the loggers, the sawyers, the sawmill, the chestnut groves, the pickers, the carters, the carts -- all that work and talk and planning, complicated, adult matters. He never felt that it had much to do with him, so how was he to have as much to do with it as his father expected? Maybe he'd find out when he grew up. "Back that way," said the taverner. prejudice certainly influenced Halkel, the first Archmage, in creating his own authoritative. the use of talking about the balance of things? There's no profit in it," they say. No profit! ".made no objection. She turned her long, creamy-white nose and beautiful eyes to look at her rider. naked white arms and shake her. . . roaster tower, a narrow passage in the three-foot-thick walls. He took Otter's arm, for the young. "So the vulgar call it, or quicksilver, or the water of weight. But those who serve him call him. "Speed the work," he said gravely. old men after all! he thought, and grinned at the thought, and slept. he cleansed me, so that each time we grow purer together." The wizard took Otter's arm and walked. "Irian of Way, my lords," said the Doorkeeper. They were all silent. He motioned her to come. damaged hip, the wise woman salved the cuts from the rocks on his hands and head and knees, his. her own will, by her own means. He could not summon her, could not even think of her, and would. Note on dates: Many islands have their own local count of years. The most widely used dating. "Well, I," said Diamond, and stuck. "I've been thinking about it," she said, hurried and earnest. "Couldn't I just tell them who I am? jolt, no warning, no whistle. Nothing. A distant voice resounded like the horn of a postilion, four. gift of magic, and sometimes grown men or women. Most of the children were poor, and though he. before the staggers begin. And those not struck yet, he says he can keep it off em. So the. "It is the lode," the young man said. "I didn't understand," Irioth said, "about the others. That they are other. We are all other. We must be. I was wrong." .prentice him to Elassen, a respectable sorcerer in Valmouth. There the boy had picked up his true. the distance several people were walking; I was not sure, however, that they were not dolls, and. the Old Speech, Ember said, each of those trees had its own name. You walked on, and after a time. thought they'd be. . . " She gazed off at the sheep on the hill, her face troubled. "Some of them are. When she said nothing, and some time had passed, he said, "In the shadow of these trees is no. huge black drops of liquid. Cars or not -- I thought -- in any case this appears to be some kind of. industry. her stand by his chair or sit on his knees and listen to all the wrongs that had been done to him. The spasm passed; Heleth answered, "Inside it. There at Yaved." He pointed to the knotted hills. mere toy, such as music or tale-telling, but a practical business, which his business could never. on deck every day and slept there on the warm nights. Ivory had not tried to coax her into the. face in the black lane, hardly able to see where the other was. Dragonfly put out her groping hand. ambitions, they said, that had perverted all the arts to ends of gain. "We do not deal with their." "Close!" Otter cried, dropping to his knees, his hands on the earth, on the raw lips of the crevasse. "Close, Mother! Be healed, be whole!" He pleaded, begged, speaking in the Language of the Making words he did not know until he spoke them. "Mother, be whole!" he said, and the broken ground groaned and moved, drawing together, healing itself. "Go in?" the boy Dulse had whispered. "They may be friends. Did I say it was an easy life?" A pause. Hemlock looked directly at Diamond. "There was a girl," he said. mild sunlight of late spring. They made good way from Geath. Late in the afternoon he heard the. Irian had waited some hours in the Doorkeeper's chamber, a low, light, bare room with a small-paned window looking out on the kitchen-gardens of the Great House - handsome, well-kept gardens, long rows and beds of vegetables, greens, and herbs, with berry canes and fruit trees beyond. She saw a burly, dark-skinned man and two boys come out and weed one of the vegetable plots. It eased her mind to watch their careful work. She wished she could help them at it. The waiting and the strangeness were very difficult. Once the Doorkeeper came in, bringing her

a plate with cold meat and bread and scallions, and she ate because he told her to eat, but chewing and swallowing were hard work. The gardeners went away and there was nothing to watch out the window but the cabbages growing and the sparrows hopping, and now and then a hawk far up in the sky, and the wind moving softly in the tops of tall trees, on beyond the gardens..the dust down. But it sounded silly all the same..next morning Golden told his son again that he must think about being a man.."Double-hearted? You? You gave up wizardry because you knew that if you didn't, you'd betray it." "Beautiful, you are beautiful," he told her, breathing her grassy breath, leaning against her."Thorion was the best of us all - a brave heart, a noble mind." The Herbal spoke almost in anger..little way, a few strides. She turned and looked back down at him. "What keeps you from the hill?".out looking scared and confused, followed by Dragonfly's loud, harsh voice - "Out of the house..Otter's shoulder. "I know you have the gift of finding what's hidden. Quite a great gift, were it.glow in thin air. You didn't know I was watching. I've watched and said nothing for a long time. I..There were only dragons, to begin with. They found the tooth on Mount Onn, in Havnor, at the..through fumes and smoke to the high room in the tower. He had to regain it all, to go through it.times-poor, coarse food, but he ate it all, slowly, valuing it. Come evening the brother went off..It was hard to be aware of her through the wizard's talk and the constant, half-conscious.Will it take a long time to find one to take us, do you think?".Mead looked at her sister. "Then it's time we talked a bit to you," she said, sitting down across.From time to time, a plaintive whistle high above us rent the unseen sky. The girl.cattle, fattening beef for the populous southern coast, letting the animals stray for miles across.chanting, weatherworking). A student who showed a gift for sorcery and was sent to Roke for.certain either of that city, which existed only within me, or of this spectral one with rooms into.his seat. I saw no houses, only the roadway, as smooth as a table and covered with strips of dull.Seven or eight years after Tehanu was published, I was asked to write a story set in Earthsea. A.vellum that had been worked into the thatching of his house. "They good for something else?" Crow,."You might have a bit of linen, though, mistress? woven, or thread? Linen of Pody is the best-so I've heard as far as Havnor. And I can tell the quality of what you're spinning. A beautiful thread it is." Crow watched his companion with amusement and some disdain; he himself could bargain for a book very shrewdly, but nattering with common women about buttons and thread was beneath him. "Let me just open this up," Tern was saying as he spread his pack out on the cobbles, and the women and the dirty, timid children drew closer to see the wonders he would show them. "Woven cloth we're looking for, and the undyed thread, and other things too-buttons we're short of. If you had any of horn or bone, maybe? I'd trade one of these little velvet caps here for three or four buttons. Or one of these rolls of ribbon; look at the color of it. Beautiful with your hair, mistress! Or paper, or books. Our masters in Orrimy are seeking such things, if you had any put away, maybe."..to board them if they could, and the men I talked to said it was a hard fight just to get away."It's the curds.".The so-called Six Hundred Runes of Hardic are not the Hardic runes used to write the ordinary.Her thin voice was hidden by the many-voiced rain sweeping over the hills and through the trees..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (99 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:32 AM].Egyptian cat. Hair blacker than black, and when she pulled the furry fluff from her arms and.word haath, "dragon," in the Old Speech.).She began to laugh..my name but the wizard, and my mother. And they're dead, they're dead... I said it in my sleep....The boy was barely seventeen, and he himself just forty-five. In his prime. He had been feeling.reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including.All the rumors of Roke had said that it was spell-defended and charm-hidden, invisible to ordinary eyes. If there were any spells woven about that hill or the bay he now saw opening before it, they were gossamer to him, transparent. Nothing blurred his eyes or challenged his will as he flew over the bay, over the little town and a half-finished building on the slope above it, to the top of the high green hill. There, striking down dragons claws and beating rust-red wings, he lighted..She'd have thought being King in Havnor wasn't good enough for him.."Ach, it's a witch's den," Crow said, at the whiff of herbs and aromatic smoke, and he stepped back.."And you feel nothing?".The Creation of Ea contains no clear references to an original unity and eventual separation of dragons and humans, but this may be because the poem in its presumed original form, in the Language of the Making, dated back to a time before the separation. The best evidence in the poem for the common origin of dragons and humans is the archaic Hardic word in it that is commonly understood as "people" or "human beings," alath. This word is by etymology (from the True Runes Atl and Htha) "word-beings," "those who say words," and therefore could mean, or include, dragons. Sometimes the word used is alherath, "true-word-beings," "those who say true words," speakers of the True Speech. This could mean human wizards, or dragons, or both. In the arcane Lore of Paln, it is said, that word is used to mean both wizard and dragon..It would be Berry at the door, though why he knocked she didn't know. "Come in, you fool!" she.sap, then sap," piped the shortest, who had a potbelly. On his head he wore a tall cap..wizardries. Enlad of the Kings, and bright Ea, eldest of isles! Surely we'll find allies there".lords of Wathort had ruled it for a century, taxing and slave taking and wearing the land and.know later was a great spell of Transforming. Ard spoke the words of the spell awry, as teachers.learned to read.."Don't come near me!". "Irian," he said, and now her name came easily, sweet and cool as spring water in his dry mouth. "Irian, here's what you must do to enter the Great House..."..He brought her into his mind and saw her as he had seen her, there, in that room, and called out to her; and she came..yes! This is the way." Yet he was following Otter. His touch and his spells pushed him, rushed.After a long time, late in the afternoon, old Hound came trudging up the valley. He stopped now.woman near him. He craved an enemy: an opponent worth destroying..It didn't seem to him to amount to much. It was such an easy matter to him to make a silvery light.Dulse had sent students on to the School, three or four of them, nice lads with a gift for this or that; but the one Nemmerle waited for had come and gone of his own will, and what they had thought of him on Roke Dulse did not know. Silence did not say. He had learned there in two or three years what some boys learned in six or seven and many never

learned at all, but to him it had been mere groundwork..who had been with him, Hound could not track: could not say whether he was under that hill with.returned. . . The Prometheus -- my ship -- remained on Luna. I came from there today. That's all." "Indeed, for the sailors feared him too, and kept him bound that way all the voyage. When the Doorkeeper of the Great House of Roke saw him, he loosed his hands and freed his tongue. And the first thing the boy did in the Great House, they say, he turned the Long Table of the dining hall upside down, and soured the beer, and a student who tried to stop him got turned into a pig for a bit... But the boy had met his match in the Masters..could do..harassing him. Later on she would go into the village, have a word with some of the sensible.Maybe she'll destroy herself through our hands, in the end. But not through yours. False king..She blushed a little..insignificance. These were brave, wise men, seeking to save what they loved, but they did not know.covering their arms gave off a light, so that only their raised necks showed in it like strange white.afternoon, but after it she went off in her abrupt way. He felt some awe of her; she was.teller came to tell it."..miles or years away..masthead, taking in sail at the hint of a west wind. But the wind held steady from the north. A."So, to be blunt about it, if you have this gift, Diamond, it's of no use, directly, to our business. It has to be cultivated on its own terms, and kept under control -- learned and mastered. Only then, he said, can your teachers begin to tell you what to do with it, what good it will do you. Or others," he added conscientiously..Another reason he loved her..he was crossed, or frightened, then he did harm. He turned a kettle of boiling water over a cook.Elfarran. To pledge his troth he gave her a silver bracelet or arm ring, the treasure of his."Acknowledged."..iron pot. "How do we get all that back to the village?" he asked the hinny. She looked after the."There was no place for him among the Masters, since a new Master Summoner had been chosen, a.the island, a sea no boat could venture out in..small, bulging bottle. She poured me a drink. It had alcohol in it -- not much -- but there was.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (102 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:32 AM].me; a flat tabletop had begun to descend, making a kind of desk, but it was a bed that I wanted. I.regular trade with South Port, and buying up the chestnut forests above Reche -- all such plans."Should I speak to him?" Gift asked in a steady voice.."Nobody can do more than that," said Rose.."I guess he did. Another curer came up this way, a fellow that's been by here before. Doesn't

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