

THE SPHINX SCROLLS

As old as Gont Island." Three things were that will not be: Solea's bright isle above the wave, A dragon swimming in the. The last heirs of the House of Hupun were a boy and girl, Ensar and Anthil. Wishing to end the line of the Kargish kings but unwilling to risk sacrilege by shedding royal blood, the Godking ordered these children to be stranded on a desert island. Among her clothes and toys the princess Anthil had the half of the broken Ring brought by Erreth-Akbe, which had descended to her from Thoreg's daughter. As an old woman she gave this to the young wizard Ged, shipwrecked on her island. Later, with the help of the high priestess of the Tombs of Atuan, Arha-Tenar, Ged was able to rejoin the broken halves of the Ring and so remake the Rune of Peace. He and Tenar brought the healed Ring to Havnor, to await the heir of Morred and Serriadh, King Lebannen. "I can give you a bit of milk soup, and a penny will be more than enough, thank you." She didn't. On Gont, he knew that. But he was tired of teaching, and didn't want another prentice underfoot. "Well, take care. I saw the fox on the full-moon night," Dulse said, and went on his way. Go on using that name for a use-name, but it's not her name, nor ever was. So now she's not a. Enlad to aid him, Morred turned and gave battle. The Enemy would not confront him directly, but. "Never fear," Diamond said, turned on his heel, and strode out. A string of dried sage caught on his head and trailed after him. Three children, two boys of fifteen or sixteen and a girl of twelve, were taken by one of Losen's patrols south of Omer, running a stolen fishing boat with the magewind. The patrol caught them only because it had a weatherworker of its own aboard, who raised a wave to swamp the stolen boat. Taken back to Omer, one of the boys broke down and blubbered about joining the Hand. Hearing that word, the men told them they would be tortured and burned, at which the boy cried that if they spared him he would tell them all about the Hand, and Roke, and the great mages of Roke. Him. She looked at him. He saw her look at him. He saw himself through her eyes. Irioth did not say yes, or no, or thanks, but went off unspeaking. The cattleman looked after him and spat. "Avert," he said. IT WAS RAINING AGAIN, and the wizard of Re Albi was sorely tempted to make a weather spell, just a. sped on. I discovered a remarkable thing: there was no sensation of braking or acceleration, as if. chasm. But it's there. And everything we do finally serves evil, because that's what we are. Greed. about her. will that hurried his steps. "But we met, we sat, and we could not choose. We said this and said that, but no name was spoken. And then I..." He paused a while. There came on me what my people call the eduevanu, the other breath. Words came to me and I spoke them. I said, Hama Gondun! And Kurremkarmerruk told them this in Hardic: "A woman on Gont." But when I came back to my own wits, I could not tell them what that meant. And so we parted with no Archmage chosen. After spending the next several days trying to recapture the missing word, he had set Silence to studying the Acastan Spells. Together they had finally worked it out, a long toil. "Like ploughing with a blind ox," Dulse said. Something moved on one of the tracks, something big, dark, in the darkness. Magic was a wild talent before the time of Morred, who as both king and mage established intellectual and moral discipline for the art magic, gathering wizards to work together at the court for the general good and to study the ethical bases and constraints of their practice. he had transformed brick into butterfly. She could not dance with him, she could not play with. "Get them here. Take my men." ordered these children to be stranded on a desert island. Among her clothes and toys the princess. (used to protect from fire, wind, and madness), Sifl ("speed well"), Simn ("work well") are used. "I'll be going to Easthill with Sul's mules." of me a woman pushed away the stewardess, who, with a slow, automatic motion, as if from the. the Patterner. "If it's a real gift, an unusual capacity, that's even more true. A witch with her love potions." You'd understand if I told you. Betrization, you see, isn't done by brit. With the brit, it's. storm of ideas and feelings, a passion of rage, vengeance, pity, pride. If the young sorcerer was seeking experience, he did not get much at Westpool. Whenever Birch had guests from Kembermouth or from neighboring domains, the herd of deer, the swans, and the fountain of golden wine made their appearance. He also worked up some very pretty fireworks for warm spring evenings. But if the managers of the orchards and vineyards came to the Master to ask if his wizard might put a spell of increase on the pears this year or maybe charm the black rot off the Fanian vines on the south hill, Birch said, "A wizard of Roke doesn't lower himself to such stuff. Go tell the village sorcerer to earn his keep!" And when the youngest daughter came down with a wasting cough, Birch's wife dared not trouble the wise young man about it, but sent humbly to Rose of Old Iria, asking her to come in by the back door and maybe make a poultice or sing a chant to bring the girl back to health. "I think Irian of Way may have come to us seeking not only what she needs to know, but also what. boat-builder of Thwil, who had taught herself her trade and welcomed his skill. Veil put no. witches a year's earnings for the promise of a healthy boy, and a rich man touch his gold. What he found on Roke was both less and more than the hope and rumor he had sought so long. Roke. "Captain," he said, "I'm sorry, I must wait to spell your sails. An earthquake is near. I must warn the city. Do you tell them down there, every ship that can sail make for the open sea. Clear out, past the Armed Cliffs! Good luck to you." And he turned and ran back up the street, a tall, strong man with rough greying hair, running now like a stag. appear as formidable but feeling beings, whose anger at the invading human fleet is justified by. ground groaned and moved, drawing together, healing itself. Of the four of them, only the Doorkeeper moved and spoke. He took a step forward, looking from one. then lit up, as if by a momentary dawn. Farther on, long, low silhouettes sailed past, much like. or hints of a greater mastery. As one true element controlled all substances, one true knowledge. Tuly shared it with him for a long time, since she could see her son only by lying to her husband, breasts and festered eyes, who spat the spittle that ran from her poisoned mouth, and wiped her. had been waiting for me. I saw her face now, the flow of sparks in the diamond disks that hid her. which a succession of blurred vehicles raced upward? Now I was completely at a loss. Constantly. "But outside Roke," said Medra, "there are common people who slave and starve and die in misery. Must they do

so for a thousand years with no hope?" In the doorkeeper's box, which was like a giant's overturned bathtub, sat a robot. "Patterner," said the Doorkeeper, not at all surprised. Otter had been struggling with tears; he hid his face. "Yes," he said, "thanks." Erreth-Akbe, half recovered, went after Orm, drove him from Havnor, and harried him on "through from my grandfather? If that polecat sets foot on my land I'll have the dogs tear out his liver, west of Ensmer, Ath confronted the great dragon Orm. Accounts of this meeting vary; but though get here?" him I wasn't coming back, he thought, his last words in Hardic, his last grief, for he was in the the empty rocket was moving off -- no, it was we who were gliding forward with the entire. Standing on that hill, Medra had said, "There is a vein of water, just under where I stand, that that would make me trust you?" and he had no answer for her. against Kargish raids and forays. again. But he could not get up to walk to the wall, and presently the pain came back very sharp in. You look at what happens and try to see why it happens, you listen to what the people there tell. readers, I include the description after the stories. I also redrew the geographical maps for this village. He still would not let her go, holding the rain-wet, stiffened body against him as if to. "I was told there's a murrain among the cattle here." Now that he wasn't all locked up with cold his voice was beautiful. He talked like the tale-tellers when they spoke the parts of the heroes and the dragonlords. Maybe he was a teller or a singer? But no; the murrain, he had said. us, to life, to bear that word. So we grieved for our lord. I. Iria. "She is," said Rush. "Like her mother and her mother's mother. Let us in, Dory, or me at least, to. He told Dragonfly very little of his plans, largely because he made few, trusting to chance and his own wits, which seldom let him down if he was given a fair chance to use them. The girl asked almost no questions. "Will I go as a man all the way?" was one. There they fished for whales, as they still do. That was a trade he wanted no part of. Their ships better, perhaps, had people ceased to do it. . . without artificial means." file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (109 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:32 AM]. chicken and fried eggs, as she was often paid in poultry. The yard of their two-room house was a. all come to be considered unclean, the belief was already widespread that men must prepare. fearlessly into the raw wound in the earth, a white light playing around his hands and his head. "Come up to the house," the Patterner said, and he set out water and food for the Namer. her thin hand, the green nails dug into my heavy sweater. I had to smile at the thought of where. "Nobody can do more than that," said Rose. was cold, and his blood did not run, and no soul was in him. That was more terrible. So we made. man unwilling to put himself under the iron control of a spell of chastity could never practice. We walked on. Still no houses in sight, and the wind that came rushing out of the. "Bring the boys, then," Early said with deadly patience. jolt, no warning, no whistle. Nothing. A distant voice resounded like the horn of a postilion, four. So that my mind could move about among the years and centuries without getting things all out of. them a part of the House that will be all their own, or even a separate house, so they can keep. "Would you like some fresh curds? It makes a good breakfast." She was eyeing him, but not for long, and not meeting his eyes. Like an animal, like a cat, she was, sizing him up but not challenging. There was a cat, a big grey, sitting on his four paws on the hearth gazing at the coals. Irioth accepted the bowl and spoon she handed him and sat down on the settle. The cat jumped up beside him and purred. thing for him to stay there, always among wizards and mages, among boys learning wizardry, all of. "Only the Master can open the door. Only the King has the key." She left him standing at the waymeet, on the level ground, and walked up the hill path for a little way, a few strides. She turned and looked back down at him. "What keeps you from the hill?" she said. All the people of the Archipelago and the Reaches share the Hardic language and culture with local. betrayed me." him, like him; first they went out together. . . She was getting used to his strange face now and was able to read it. She thought that he looked. Otter crouched as always in the uneasy oppression of the spellbond. He drank thirstily. The sharp earthy taste of the onion was good, and he ate it all. straightened my sweater. Feeling stupid, somehow, with my hands empty. Through the open door. Roke, he had worn shoes. But he had come back home to Gont, to Re Albi, with his wizard's staff, desire. "You want me to stay?" herbals, and established that mastery in high honor at Roke. it. "My mastery is here," the boy had said, but it went deeper than mastery. That, perhaps, was. and fifty years after Maharion's death. Perceiving the Hand as a threat to their hegemony, the riddle song of which the last line has to do, maybe, with the man who was Medra, and Otter, and. Clearly, what I had devised, and the way, too, that I went before them to argue for an. was lucky. I learned my lesson young. "To those who will give me my name. In fire not water. My people." of Earthsea. pouch made of a sheep's stomach. They were very poor people. They gave him what they had. So Anieb. crafts and arts of a nonindustrial society. Their population is stable and has never overcrowded. far as Diamond could see, doing no magic at all. "Keep the Equilibrium, it's all in that," Hemlock. must be sacrifice not only of base flesh but also of inferior spirit. The great fire in the tower. silent and went sidling back to the house with their tails down. high-pitched and rough. The witch said nothing. She knew the girl was right. Once the Master of Iria said he would or. He shivered like a horse as he stood there, too tall for the herb-festooned rafters. He was very. the other people doing? Putting the things in their pockets. The sign on the dispenser: LARGAN. I. by mere luck I didn't go wrong. And by Anieb's gift of strength to me. But for her I'd be Gelluk's. "Get the sail down," Medra said, preemptory. The master yawned and cursed and began to shout

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