

## ITS HISTORY AND IDEALS

She led me toward a dark gold wall, to a mark on it, a little like a treble clef, lit up. At our "I am." He turned and made for the shore, hasty, careless where he set his feet and not caring if he broke the silence by splashing and breathing hard. He slogged back up the path through the reeds till he reached dry ground and coarse grass, and heard the buzz of midges and crickets. He sat down then on the ground, rather hard, for his legs were shaking. "You take care," the witch said, grim. "Everything's perilous, right enough, and meddling with King needed some diversions.. "In the Grove is no harm," said the Patterner. "Come on. There is an old house, a hut. Old, dirty..It was Golden's grandest party yet, with a dancing floor built on the town green down the way from Golden's house, and a tent for the old folks to eat and drink and gossip in, and new clothes for the children, and jugglers and puppeteers, some of them hired and some of them coming by to pick up whatever they could in the way of coppers and free beer. Any festivity drew itinerant entertainers and musicians it was their living, and though uninvited they were welcomed. A tale-singer with a droning voice and a droning bagpipe was singing The Deed of the Dragonlord to a group of people under the big oak on the hilltop. When Tarry's band of harp, fife, viol, and drum took time off for a breather and a swig, a new group hopped up onto the dance floor. "Hey, there's Labby's band!" cried the pretty girl nearest Diamond. "Come on, they're the best!".witches a year's earnings for the promise of a healthy boy, and a rich man touch his gold-.with the King of the Kargad Lands..Hand, the community survived for centuries, maintaining a tenuous but vigorous network of.Mountain, echoing round from north to south, dying away in the cloud-filled forests..disgusted by him. How could he frighten a creature already blind and beshatten with fear? He set a way out, in the aisle, she put both her hands into a small niche lined with tiles; something in there.there, be nice," I said. He couldn't be real -- a phantom, like the singer, like the ones down by the."I tell you, Irian, he cannot come here, he cannot harm you here..". "Study with the wizard?".He drank a mug of beer down in one draft, and the girls with him watched the muscles in his strong throat as he swallowed, and they laughed and chattered, and he shivered all over like a cart horse stung by flies. He said, "Oh! I can't --!" He bolted off into the dusk beyond the lanterns hanging around the brewer's booth. "Where's he going?" said one, and another, "He'll be back," and they laughed and chattered.. "Perhaps I am wrong," said Hemlock in his dry, flat voice. "Your gift may be for Pattern. Or perhaps it's an ordinary gift for shaping and transformation. I'm not certain..into which he had put the few drops of quicksilver. His eye always on Otter's eye, he unsealed the.much, you at the Gates and me at the inner end, in the Mountain. Working together, you know. We..There were other people on the hill, he saw now, many others, men and women, children, living and spirits of the dead; many, many of them. He was terrified of them and cowered, trying to make a spell that would hide him from them all..not come, and he soon slept in sheer weariness. He woke in the first, cold light. He sat up and water was dark, though it lay out under the bright sky and far above the peat soils. Dulse..By the beginning of autumn, Losen was hanging by a rope round his feet from a window of the New.say it. And the rest is silence..".pilot lights; from above poured heat, so possibly it was indeed gas. In the walls I saw recesses.Iria, and she came striding down to meet him. "I'm sorry, Ivory," she said, looking up at him with..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..looked at her as he spoke. "I am Kurremkarmerruk," he said to her. "As the Master Namer here, I.. "Our problem is with men," Veil said, "if you'll forgive me, dear brother. Men are of more account..Her guest came out of the house. It was a bright, misty morning, the marshes hidden by gleaming vapors. Andanden floated above the mists, a vast broken shape against the northern sky..and bread and scallions, and she ate because he told her to eat, but chewing and swallowing were..Though like any power they could be perverted to evil use in the service of ambition (as was the Terrenon Stone in Osskil), the Old Powers were inherently sacral and pre-ethical. During and after the Dark Time, however, they were feminised and demonised in the Hardic lands by wizards, as they were in the Kargad Lands by the cults of the Priestkings and the Godkings. So by the eighth century, in the Inner Lands of the Archipelago, only village women kept up rituals and offerings at the old sites. They were despised or abused for doing so. Wizards kept clear of such places. On Roke, itself the center of the Old Powers in all Earthsea, the profoundest manifestations of those powers-Roke Knoll and the Immanent Grove-were never spoken of as such. Only the Patterners, who lived all their lives in the Grove, served to link human arts and acts to the older sacredness of the earth, reminding the wizards and mages that their power was not theirs, but lent to them..But Otter was intensely aware of Gelluk, both physically and as a presence of immense controlling..obstinate, and, in defense of his passion, brave. He had defied Losen's power, years before, going..figure out whether they had something to do with the traffic and its regulation.. "Frosty. White," she said, looking away, embarrassed..remained motionless for a few seconds, then slowly went along the shore, following its uneven..witch, sorcerer, or wizard is the power to know the true name of a child and give the child that."I can't stop," she said, and started to walk again..grim-faced old Namer..pushed and shoved in the swarming crowds, I attempted to work my way to some clear space, but..years before?.among the leaves..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (93 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "I'll tell him that the changes in a man's life may be beyond all the arts we know, and all our wisdom," said the Archmage. He looked at Emer again. "May he stay here, mistress? Is that your wish as well as his?".locked in its muteness.. "Seemed odd. Old woman from a village inland, never seen the sea, calling the name of an island away off like that..".the way and was wandering without heed. He talked, turning sometimes to Otter to guide him or warn..Back Cover: "There, you see -- did you know in which direction the water flowed before it. . . ?".to dress herself and her daughter in new clothes, buy shoes, and keep clean, but it didn't occur."No, sir. I left..".with a spell, if I have to. And the band,

they're all right. Labby isn't as bad as he looks..other metals, even gold, see..to Pody if you like. And then back to Orrimy. I've had about enough." They said little, seeming to consult and assent among themselves almost in silence. At last the. And many there said good riddance, for he'd always been half mad, and now was mad entirely.. "Well, he can't lift the murrain all at once. But seems like he can cure a beast if he gets to it before the staggers begin. And those not struck yet, he says he can keep it off em. So the master's sending him all about the range to do what can be done. It's too late for many." was nearly inaudible, a rough whisper.. The next day she said, "I'm going to sit under the trees." Not sure what was expected of him, he followed her at a distance till they came to the inmost part of the Grove where all the trees were of the same kind, nameless yet each with its own name. When she sat down on the soft leaf mold between the roots of a big old tree, he found himself a place not far away to sit; and as she watched and listened and was still, he watched and listened and was still. So they did for several days. Then one morning, in rebellious mood, he stayed by the stream while Ember walked into the Grove. She did not look back.. "In Havnor, years ago, I was in servitude. Those who freed me told me about a place where there are no masters, and the rule of Serriadh is remembered, and the arts are honored. I have been looking for that place, that island, seven years." a collateral line of the House of Enlad, inheriting the throne from a cousin; his forebears were. where the man was he betook himself there very quickly, on eagle's wings; for Early was a great. had planned this conversation. "To enter the Great House: to go through that door." Books of history and the records and recipes for magic exist only in written form- the latter. Irian stepped forward before the Doorkeeper could answer.. making a fist and smiling. "Pretty good for fifty years old!" she said. It was silly to boast, but. he was ten years old. He had been afraid of them, the women that shouted at him to get out of the. Otter stated it as an unfortunate fact, not as a moral assertion. Hound looked at him with. of a fountain. The girl, wearing a bright dress that was quite ordinary, which encouraged me, held. He listened. They walked on at last through a silence enlarged and deepened by that far call.. But for some decades the kings of Hupun had been in conflict with the high priest and his followers in Awabath, the Holy City, fifty miles from Hupun. The priests of the Twin Gods were in the process of wresting power from the kings and making Awabath not only the religious but the political center of the country. Erreth-Akbe's visit seems to have coincided with the final shift of power from the kings to the priests. King Thoreg received him with honor, but Intathin the High Priest fought with him, defeated or deceived him, and for a time imprisoned him. The Ring that was to bond the two kingdoms was broken.. miners forbade it, earnestly believing it was the worst of bad luck for a man to pick up a shovel. Writing is said to have been invented by the Rune Masters, the first great wizards of the. She looked at him and at the Doorkeeper and said nothing.. looked at the pages. Long, long lists of names and numbers, debts and credits, profits and losses.. "All wrong." smock and leggings and a loathsome felt hat, did not wink back. She played her part even while. tell you, peddler, she has an open hand. Though perhaps not all of us do.. "I'll take those names from you, Irioth, but not your own." became more and more aloof, pursuing his studies in his tower cell apart from others, teaching few. "I don't know," the Herbal said. "I can only tell you that when I'm with him, when I'm in the. Women who work magic may practice periods of celibacy as well as fasting and other disciplines. Though he seldom left the city, Early prided himself on his knowledge of all the Archipelago.. wondered, it being winter and all, and you being on the roads. But with that horse, I thought you. your horse up and see to him. There's the pump, there's plenty of hay. Come on in the house after.. stableyard, off across the hill, on the path that went around it halfway up. One of the dogs, her. "We must give what we have to give," said Medra. "If all but us are slaves, what's our freedom worth?" were a bit weak, and my mouth was dry, and suddenly my throat-clearing turned to mad laughter.. He was in fact a town boy, born in Gont Port. He had said nothing about himself, but Dulse had. out. So I'm all right. What about you, Di?" mostly older students; there were five or six wizard's staffs among the crowd, and the Master. compelled by him, but she was with me, and she was free. And so together we could turn his power. sap, then sap," piped the shortest, who had a potbelly. On his head he wore a tall cap.. to take. "This way," he said, falling into step beside her, and after a while, "This way," and so. He got to his knees, and thought then to whisper, "Thank you, mother." He got to his feet, and fell, because his left hip gave way with a pain that made him cry out aloud. After a while he tried again, and stood up. Then he started forward.. that to Dulse a night or two before he left Roke, a year or two before Nemmerle was chosen. She stretched, feeling the ease of her body in the warmth, and her mind drifted back to Ivory. She. without knowing him, right away. . . milk. Her eyes grew wide in surprise. Something like a mocking smile touched her lips. She. After a while she heard the latch rattle. The door opened. An ordinary-looking middle-aged man stood there. "What can I do for you?" he said. He did not smile, but his voice was pleasant.. flashing beat of the galley oars, for the sails of his ships coming to punish these people and. They said little, seeming to consult and assent among themselves almost in silence. At last the shorter woman looked with her fierce eyes at Medra. "Stay if you will," she said.. "Weren't human?" how to do it. And she had no share in their wisdom, no part in their decisions. She drew away from. dead, the blind girl who knew the names of things. He told them his trick, and the blind girl. put in compilations.. The Doorkeeper came back and said, "Come, Irian, and meet the Masters of Roke." Her heart began to. "The problem is..." myself could have come up with better. They insisted on one thing only, that each of us fly. and his bubble level in it. And he wasn't altogether lying about the wind. Several times he had. She broke off. I knew what she wanted to say. I remained silent.. the top of his staff, a light staff of some greyish wood. The door opened as a resonant voice. and after a while she smiled a little. Turning back to Medra, she said, "We're prisoners, and so. Medra took her hand and put his forehead against it. Telling his story he had kept back tears. He. men seeking work found only beggary, and rats ran in the courts of Maharion. They did an honest. "What brit? Ah, the milk? What of it?" "I am Anieb," she whispered.. Diamond's face shone.. 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..Several times, all of a sudden, in the daytime, there had been a moment when she had known him.farm buildings stood in the lee of a hill, across which a flock of sheep moved like a cloud-.see it, if you don't mind, sir. He won't come looking for it. But if he saw it, he'd take it. He.if only they could come to Roke..the weather was settled so mild, they had put up the mast and big square sail. The ship drifted.lords of Wathort had ruled it for a century, taxing and slave taking and wearing the land and.to a platform at least a kilometer long from which a spindle-shaped craft was just departing,.know another such. And more than that, more than that, the King enters into my seed. He is my.At first he had thought Diamond had a knack such as many children had and then lost, a stray spark of magery. When he was a little boy, Golden himself had been able to make his own shadow shine and sparkle. His family had praised him for the trick and made him show it off to visitors; and then when he was seven or eight he had lost the hang of it and never could do it again..That had always been his word for evil doings, spells for gain, curses, black magic: "sticky stuff.".I paced the room. She followed me with her eyes, as if I were. . . as if she stood in a cage..been honored in his island, and his successor would have both honor and power. Perhaps tempted to

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