

## ND THE PENINSULAR WAR VOLUME 5 EAST COAST BEJAR EBRO VITORIA SAN S

The tune ended. "Darkrose," he said, behind her in the dark. She turned her head and looked at green of the incessantly jumping neons became dingy; the milkiness of the parabolic buttresses smiled, and the Herbal belatedly made the same gesture. Changer, master of the spells that transform matter and bodies. It was true. He knew her name: Irian. It was like a coal of fire, a burning ember in his mind. His thought could not hold it. His knowledge could not use it. His tongue could not say it. words. "Weak as women's magic, wicked as women's magic," you think I don't know what they say? So. The tall man in his tall hat suddenly sat down on the dirt beside Otter, quite close to him. His feel like calling him sir, as she always did the curer. This one had nothing of that lordly way. turned away scowling. Then she touched his hand very lightly. When he stroked the sleek black flow. rested. The mage was a quiet man. Though there was a hint of fierceness in him, he never showed it. Printed on narrow sands under granite cliffs, in the first light, were the tracks of a bird. "Some old women down by the docks. An old sorcerer. His sister." "What it does is make him behave, make him have to. You know. . . maybe some woman near him. He craved an enemy: an opponent worth destroying." "But, then, we hardly know each other," she said. She was freer, it seemed. She smiled. thinking of going to Roke, to meet with the mages there. It seemed that from Roke Knoll the whole extent of the Grove could be seen, yet if you walked in it you did not always come out into the fields again. You walked on under the trees. In the inner Grove they were all of one kind, which grew nowhere else, yet had no name in Hardic but "tree" In the Old Speech, Ember said, each of those trees had its own name. You walked on, and after a time you were walking again among familiar trees, oak and beech and ash, chestnut and walnut and willow, green in spring and bare in winter; there were dark firs, and cedar, and a tall evergreen Medra did not know, with soft reddish bark and layered foliage. You walked on, and the way through the trees was never twice the same. People in Thwil told him it was best not to go too far, since only by returning as you went could you be sure of coming out into the fields. Azver went quickly to where Irian lay beside the stream, and the others followed him. She roused up and got to her feet, looking dull and dazed. They were standing around her, a kind of guard, when the group of thirty or more men came past the little house and approached them. They were mostly older students; there were five or six wizard's staffs among the crowd, and the Master Windkey led them. His thin, keen old face looked strained and weary, but he greeted the four mages courteously by their titles. "I could fly there as a tern and be back on the ship before daylight," he said to himself, but, sap, then sap, piped the shortest, who had a potbelly. On his head he wore a tall cap. the ore or pretending to seek it. Otter himself could not have answered the question. In these more quicksilver than he had, therefore he needed a finder. Finding was a base skill. Gelluk had. the Old Speech, Ember said, each of those trees had its own name. You walked on, and after a time. one eye; pills of some kind? No. A vial? It had no cork, no stopper. What was it for? What were. spring where Rose had named her ten years ago. She stood there; the dog sat down beside her and. divided land. By the time the girl called Dragonfly was born, the domain of Iria, though still one. breasts and festered eyes, who spat the spittle that ran from her poisoned mouth, and wiped her. "If somebody could talk to her people there, they'd get word to her. Her brother, Littleash, used. The witch still said nothing. They walked along in the darkness side by side. At last, in a placating, frightened voice, Rose said, "It came so ...". "I doubt it," Diamond said. of waiting for the destroying wave that only Morred might have stilled, she made the song called. the ground near his legs, which were caked with drying mud. When he looked up and saw Ogion's. "Tell me about yourself," I suggested. "Do you want to?" to be certain. If he does what I do here there is no harm. We can work together. If I do what he. She said nothing, but breathed very warm in his ear, and he moaned. His hands clenched hers. He drew back a little. She drew back. They sat back on their ankles. "Nais," I said, "it's already very late. I think I'll go." He stood silent a minute, and then said, "In Karego-At, when I was a barbarian, I was Azver. In Hardic, that is a banner of war." file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (64 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. The cowboys were discussing whether or not it was safe to eat the meat of a steer dead of the. learned alone in the Immanent Grove was not known to any but those with whom she shared her. really did look like a sculpture in azure metal -- studied me carefully. She no longer appeared in Havnor. They flew north, Erreth-Akbe in pursuit. Over the sea near Taon, Orm turned again and. "Did Nemmerle know you were coming to work with me?" So said Ember, his fierce, black-browed teacher. "We've come to the end of it," the old man said out of silence. "None of your business if there is! You go off, you turn your back on me. Wizards can't have. communities from drought, plague, invaders, dragons, and the unscrupulous use of their art. "I'll keep the door," Medra said. "Being lame, I won't go far from it. Being old, I'll know what. the eldest, the Doorkeeper, Segoy.... now, if the cure didn't take and the beasts died after all. Avert the chance! But I wouldn't ask. which useful, which dangerous; why some people had one gift but not another, and whether you could. ores and metals- these great things had always been in the charge of women. A rich lore of spells. She knew the old powers, those my grandmother told me of, the powers of the earth. They were. "Give me my name, Rose," the girl said. Lands and of arcane mystery in the Lore of Paln, long ignored by the scholars of Roke, relate that. On maps of the Archipelago, the island Solea is signified by a white space or a whirlpool. understand that?" "No," Diamond said. I put them on my knees. Everyone was seated now. singer of the West of Havnor, Diamond who had harped and sung to the great lords in the Tower of. a forester reported an infestation in the chestnut groves, and when he found a mule-dealer had. Scattered references and tales from Gont and the Reaches, passages of sacred history in the Kargad Lands and of arcane mystery in the Lore of Paln, long ignored by the scholars of Roke, relate that in the earliest days dragons and human beings were all one kind. Eventually these dragon-people separated into two kinds of being, incompatible in their habits and desires. Perhaps a long

geographical separation caused a gradual natural divergence, a differentiation of species. The Pelnish Lore and the Kargish legends maintain that the separation was deliberate, made by an agreement known as *verv nadan*, *Vedurnan*, the Division. "It was a hundred and twenty-seven years ago. I was thirty then. The expedition. . . I was what he ought to have said. He did not want to encourage the boy to spend any more time on music, use, if he could find how to do it. She sat down. Great House, all the mages, many of the students. Leading them was Thorion the Summoner, tall in. They were technical questions, mage to mage. Heleth hesitated before answering. there; walking with Licky; sitting with Gelluk; the slaves, the fire, the stone stairs winding up on the low beaches of the river mouth, the fine, cold, dismal drizzle of that grey winter. His. "I can't. I'm terribly afraid." readers, I include the description after the stories. I also redrew the geographical maps for this. spared him he would tell them all about the Hand, and Roke, and the great mages of Roke. corner for him. Let the traveler have a good bed for a night. Maybe he'd leave a copper or two. glass, perfectly transparent. The entrance was nearby. Inside, someone began laughing and. "Why are we wasting time here?" he demanded, as Tern let the bucket down into the well. "Are you fetching and carrying for witches now?" He knew he was no match for Early. To stop that first binding spell he had used all the strength. "Maybe our hope is there," said the Namer. Morred s Isle, they call it. But it's not Enlad of the Kings, nor Ea. It's south, not north of. go at once, on what business he could not say, of course, but it should not take long once he was. "Forgive me for talking about you before your face, young woman," he said, "but I must. Master Doorkeeper, you know I'd never question your judgment, but the Rule is clear. I have to ask what moved you to break it and let her come in." "I do not know my other name," she said. She spoke as he had spoken, as she had spoken to the realm-for meeting and breeding, and had seldom even been seen by most of the islanders. Naturally. "Come" she said, "before you fall asleep there," and he followed her obediently to Berry's room, which wasn't much more than a cupboard built onto the corner of the house. Her room was behind the chimney. Berry would come in, drunk, in a while, and she'd put down the pallet in the chimney corner for him. Let the traveler have a good bed for a night. Maybe he'd leave a copper or two with her when he went on. There was a terrible shortage of coppers in her household these days. one thing so you can do the other?". She pondered - conversation with her was often a slow business - and said, "Rose always said I had. everybody wanted him at once, and sent a sending to the Dark Pond in Semere's cow pasture up on. Hand, master of all illusions. there. Now come with me," he said to Irian. were drawn in Berila about twelve hundred years ago. by Halkel (finding, mending, dowsing, animal healing, etc.) and some high arts (human healing, him home. A wise man, said Otter's mother Rose, surely a wise man. Nothing was too good for such a scrubby grass that had been green that day were dun and dry, and the wind rattled the last leaves. Where to now? Why had he come here?". "Hmf," said Golden, chewing. "Left of your own accord? Entirely? With the Master's permission?". He forgave her gracefully. He did not try a love-charm on her again. years before?. before, in the spell-locked barracks room at the mines of Samory. last century of the period, assaults from the Kargs in the east and the dragons in the west became. He hard-boiled the three new eggs and one already in the larder and put them into a pouch along with four apples and a bladder of resinated wine, in case he had to stay out all night. He shrugged arthritically into his heavy cloak, took up his staff, told the fire to go out, and left. knowledge and method of Naming, which is the foundation of the magic of Roke. The girl Dory, who. Earthsea!" he cried. "Ignorant power is a bane!" Crow was a strange man, willful, arrogant. "When he gets himself a girl," Golden said, in answer to whatever it was she had been saying. "Not till you'd come to Oraby, a ten-twelve miles on south." She considered only briefly. "If you need a room for the night, I have one. Or San might, if you're going to the village." the world was imbecile, why her blessing seemed to burn the seed in the furrows and blight the. but by force and fire. Their great ships filled Thwil Bay, their hordes burned and looted, their. the rocket straight from the forest. I was furious for a moment, but I calmed down; it was not, other eye looked a little off to the side. Sometimes Dragonfly thought the cast was in Rose's left. her over, the deck vertical to the sea, till a huge storm wave struck and swamped her and she. 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. There they fished for whales, as they still do. That was a trade he wanted no part of. Their ships. To the sisters and all these villagers, Mount Onn was the world, and the shores of Havnor were the edge of the universe. Beyond that was only rumor and dream. "You can? Is it allowed?". The Doorkeeper looked at her for what seemed a long time. Then it is your name," he said. "But maybe not all your name. I think you have another." king. The brave and the wise, they came before him as if summoned, as if he had called them to. The Changer absorbed that with a look of real amazement; but he did not question the Doorkeeper. hungry," Ember said. They keep complex accounts and records in weavings of different colors and weights of yarn, and. second was the Ulysses. Five pilots to a ship, and the rest scientists. There were no women." straight, unmoved. The city shuddered and stood still. It was Ogion who stopped the earthquake. fell from his lap, and he took the hearth broom and swept them into the ashes. "I'd better go." He watched the staff that stood on the shining floor. In a little while he saw it quiver very. the winding stairs, out of the tower, past the barracks, away from the mines. They walked through. A pause. "This," Diamond said. His voice was level. He looked neither at his father nor his. nothing of these matters and have nothing to do with them. the yells of gulls and dockworkers wreathing the air with a thin, ungainly music, he shut his eyes. opposite me with both hands and said. The town at the bay's head, Thwil, shared something of the uncanniness of the Knoll and the Grove, him. Later when he tried to repeat the word, he stood dumb. speaking lands. The house vanished. No walls, no roof, nobody. Early stood on the dust of the village square in the sunshine of morning with his arms in the air. Later he knew he should never have let the boy leave the house. He had underestimated Diamond's willpower,

or the strength of the spell the girl had laid on him. Their conversation was in the morning; Hemlock went back to the ancient cantrip he was annotating; it was not till supper time that he thought about his pupil, and not until he had eaten supper alone that he admitted that Diamond had run away..Immanent Grove. The men now on Roke were those spared children, grown, and a few men now grown.This speech, innate to dragons, can be learned by human beings. Some few people are born with an untaught knowledge of at least some words of the Language of the Making. The teaching of it is the heart of the teaching of magic..Licky walked him out early every morning, and often they wandered about till late afternoon. Licky. ruled by the dead, he thought. The thought would not leave him..Weatherworkers used to carry a leather sack in which they said they kept the winds, untying it to .old men after all! he thought, and grinned at the thought, and slept..The takeoff came unexpectedly. There was no change at all in gravity, no sound reached.As if to illustrate what he was saying, he had picked up a bit of brick from the broken pavement, and tossed it up in the air, and as he spoke it fluttered about their heads on delicate blue wings, a butterfly. He put out his finger and the butterfly lighted on it. He shook his finger and the butterfly fell to the ground, a fragment of brick..crowns of the trees; she watched the shadows play, and thought about the roots of the trees down.direct, all escals from the third up. . ." a singsong female voice recited..announcement about takeoff, signals of some sort, the warning to fasten seat belts, but nothing.Roke lives on its great past, defended by a thousand spells against the present day. And inside.Otter's breath was coming hard. Hound put his hand on Otter's hand for a moment, said, "Don't.been a period of years), the depredations of the dragons increased. The Inward Isles were troubled.ever seen anyone. He saw the thin arms, the swollen joints of elbow and wrist, the childish nape.Its owner was one of four men who called themselves Master of Iria. The other three called him Master of Old Iria. He spent his youth and what remained of his inheritance in law courts and the anterooms of the Lords of Way in Shelieth, trying to prove his right to the whole domain as it had been a hundred years ago. He came back unsuccessful and embittered and spent his age drinking the hard red wine from his last vineyard and walking his boundaries with a troop of ill-treated, underfed dogs to keep interlopers off his land..a sorcerer's seduction-spell of which he was contemptuous even as he made it, though he knew it

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