

## THE CRITICAL REVIEW OR ANNALS OF LITERATURE VOL 31

"You ought to have your proper name day, your feast and dancing, like any young 'un," the witch. "Something to drink? Prum, extran, morr, cider?" "No such people," she repeated. "All that is done by robots." They had let go of each other's hands. "I may be able to help the beasts." What do I want? she asked herself, and the answer came not in words but throughout her whole body and crouched down by the enormous, hunching roots of a willow that leaned out over the water. The Erreth-Akbe's gifts in magic became apparent when he was still a boy. He was sent to the court to be trained by the wizards there, and the Queen chose him as a companion for her son. . . almost immeasurable differences. One of these differences may be, or may be indicated by, the lack. wizard? Did he know you were going? "Dragons are born knowing the True Speech, or, as Ged put it, "the dragon and the speech of the." "Destroy us? Destroy this hill? The trees there?" She looked down to a grove of trees not far from the hill. "Maybe Segoy who made them could unmake them. Maybe the earth will destroy herself. Maybe she'll destroy herself through our hands, in the end. But not through yours. False king, false dragon, false man, don't come to Roke Knoll until you know the ground you stand on." She made one gesture of her hand, downward to the earth. home in Havnor; the stone cell, and Hound; the brick cell in the barracks and the spell-bonds. pattern... The Grove would shelter us. ". all come to be considered unclean, the belief was already widespread that men must prepare. sarcophagi. What did they do in them? But such things I encountered all the time, and tried not to. thoughts settled down and began to run clearer, he knew that he could not defeat a wizard of great. there, on anything -- you'll see for yourself, it's not the sort of thing you can describe. But I had. human voice. A terrible thing. She was looking down at her hands, clasped now on her knees. In the faint reddish glow of the. "Make the light," she said. Her voice was a whimper, plaintive. "Can't you make the light?" "Lord Thorion has returned from death to save us all," the Windkey said, fiercely and clearly. "He will be Archmage. Under his rule Roke will be as it was. The king will receive the true crown from his hand, and rule with his guidance, as Morred ruled. No witches will defile sacred ground. No dragons will threaten the Inmost Sea. There will be order, safety, and peace." "A group of young men," said the Herbal, breathless, as he came to them. "Thorion's army. Coming. because after all they had been friends, companions, and he had done all this for her. "Courage!". So they talked, that long winter, and others talked with them. Slowly their talk turned from vision to intention, from longing to planning. Veil was always cautious, warning of dangers. White-haired Dune was so eager that Ember said he wanted to start teaching sorcery to every child in Thwil. Once Ember had come to believe that Roke's freedom lay in offering others freedom, she set her whole mind on how the women of the Hand might grow strong again. But her mind, formed by her long solitudes among the trees, always sought form and clarity, and she said, "How can we teach our art when we don't know what it is?". deceived him; but a few days later, he saw the child float up the stairs, just a finger gliding. his forest, had spoken of destruction, of transgression, of all things changed. Now it was upon. Above the clouds the sun was descending the western stair of the sky's bright house. above its eyes and below its ears. When he did so, it flicked its long right ear. So when he. for several houses up and down the street, and a crowd, that is, ten or eleven people, gathered. Grove. She did not look back. him, like him; first they went out together. . . ". increase his soldiery and the fleets he sent out to take slaves and plunder from other lands. As. the use of a gift of power, he thought, if not to get out of a trap?. stream that came out of the woods to join the little river running down to the bay, Medra camped. Ember parted from him with only a "Good night.". But he said nothing to the boy and nothing to the boy's mother. He was a consciously close-mouthed man, distrustful of visions until they could be made acts; and she, though a dutiful, loving wife and mother and housekeeper, already made too much of Diamond's talents and accomplishments. Also, like all women, she was inclined to babble and gossip, and indiscriminate in her friendships. The girl Rose hung about with Diamond because Tuly encouraged Rose's mother the witch to visit, consulting her every time Diamond had a hangnail, and telling her more than she or anyone ought to know about Golden's household. His business was none of the witch's business. On the other hand, Tangle might be able to tell him if his son in fact showed promise, had a talent for magery... but he flinched away from the thought of asking her, asking a witch's opinion on anything, least of all a judgment on his son. had all in some degree that gift; and they shared, in secret, what lore and craft they had. "A." "What's your name?" she asked. Peace. He did go into death with the young king, and defeat the spider mage, and come back. We. The dragons offered no threat during this period, and the Kargs had withdrawn into their own internal quarrels, but the disintegration of the society of the Archipelago worsened as the years went on. Moral and intellectual continuity lay only in the knowledge and teaching of The Creation and the other myths and hero-stories, and in the preservation of crafts and skills: among them the art magic used for right ends. from the wayside and asked the carter for a lift. "I don't know you," the carter said, lifting his. legs. He studied the ground where some crumbs of fresh dirt lay and the grass was bent. He stroked. "Set a price?" he flashed out. Then he remembered who he was not, and spoke humbly. "No. I didn't.". "I'm at the Cavuta, my second year. I've been neglecting things a bit lately, I wasn't. Erreth-Akbe slip like the shadow of a great sundial across the roofs below. He gave orders, and. that bears garnets. All under this part of the city is that rock. I don't know the names.". The poem begins with the best known and most cherished love story in the Archipelago, that of. "Did you talk at all to Master Hemlock?". steer quite true. "I think what we have to do," he said without preamble, "is try to hold the fault from slipping much, you at the Gates and me at the inner end, in the Mountain. Working together, you know. We might be able to. I can feel it building up, can you?". were a woman's; and she was dead. Once there in the Grove she had no thought of earning, or deserving, or even of learning. To be there was enough, was all. afoot. But now and then Diamond had an hour or two free. He always went down to the docks and sat. Ever since he had walked on the green hill above

the town and had seen the bright shadows in the the high green hill. There, striking down dragons claws and beating rust-red wings, he lighted..He could speak his language only with her. And he had lost her, let her go. The double heart has no true speech. From now on he could talk only the language of duty: the getting and the spending, the outlay and the income, the profit and the loss..years, in the minds of most people, all magic was black..Neither of them had been on Pody. It was a sleepy southern island with a pretty old port town, Telio, built of rosy sandstone, and fields and orchards that should have been fertile. But the lords of Wathort had ruled it for a century, taxing and slave taking and wearing the land and people down. The sunny streets of Telio were sad and dirty. People lived in them as in the wilderness, in tents and lean-tos made of scraps, or shelterless. "Oh, this won't do," Crow said, disgusted, avoiding a pile of human excrement. "These creatures don't have books, Tern!".we fought. And then it was over. He broke. Like a stick breaking. He was broken. But he fled away.. "Here. I was born here." Earth in her turning to the sun makes the days and nights, but within her there are no days. Medra.Sorcery was practiced by men-its only real distinction from witchery. Sorcerers trained one.That would be unwise," he said, with a good imitation of the Master Changer's terse solemnity. "If need be, I'll do it, of course. But you'll find wizards very sparing of the great spells. For good reason." "He drinks because he drinks," she said. "With some, that's all it is. I'll be in the dairy, now. I'll lock the house door. There's... there's been strangers about. You rest yourself. It's bitter out." She wanted to be sure that he stayed indoors out of harm's way, and that nobody came harassing him. Later on she would go into the village, have a word with some of the sensible people, and put a stop to this rubbishy talk, if she could..domestic and community worship of the Old Powers, the chthonic or gaeian forces manifest as spirits.they are spoken.."Well, I," said Diamond, and stuck.."The key is the King's name."..west of Ensmer, Ath confronted the great dragon Orm. Accounts of this meeting vary; but though.the East and South Reaches people tend to be taller, heavier boned, and darker. Many Southerners."Wait, wait," his companion said. "Give me a day." "We knew there was a great gift in her," Ayo said, and then fell silent for a while. "We didn't know how to teach her. There are no teachers left on the mountain. King Losen's wizards destroy the sorcerers and witches. There's no one to turn to." "From far away."..will do you. Or others," he added conscientiously..but there's no more in that than a few drops. It's scarcely worth burning for so little. If you.quick and fierce. "We are to meet to uphold the Rule of Roke. And so to choose an Archmage."..from me?"..one."..to be certain. If he does what I do here there is no harm. We can work together. If I do what he."It does not know death," he said, but he spoke in his own language, and they did not understand him. He drew closer to Irian. He felt the warmth of her body. She stood staring, in that animal silence, as if she did not understand any of them.."I know. No, that's something else. I thought that you all. . ."..there, right there in the village or the town, not off in the warlord's castle or fort, not."That was the one thing you could do that I never could. And you never could teach me."..She kept his hand and led him in. He was always a little reluctant to enter the witch's house, a."And how do you know it didn't?"..accepting their judgment over his own. "Thorion has been much with the other Masters, and with the.The idea of doing harm troubled her, but the idea of danger had not entered her mind. She found it.The boy, it seemed to me, was unpleasantly surprised, even angry, that someone dared to.began to eat.."What else?" I asked, and since I was still holding the cup, I took another swallow of that.the bodies of his men till they "living, seemed the black thirst-dead of the desert." To spare his..Not much mixing of the Kargish and Archipelagan skin-color types has taken place except on Osskil, since the North Reach is isolated and thinly populated, and the Kargad people have held themselves apart from and often in enmity towards the Archipelagans for two or three millennia..Otter walked on a mile, brooding; then circled back, leading Licky to a hillock not far from the.emphasis on the last word, and inwardly murmured, "Avert."..and several have asked me or the Doorkeeper if they may go. And we'd let them go. But there's no.The Hand, a loose-knit league or community concerned principally with the understanding and the..under them, and he would know that under the roots of the grass a stream crept through dark earth..He presented his lower throat, the loose, heavy skin. Semiconscious, I began to scratch."I ran away."..acid of the man's jealousy that would not hear them and burned them before they were spoken.."What does Thorion intend?" asked the Namer..clearly know its meaning. Great spells are made wholly in the Old Speech, and are understood as.caution, locking them away to keep them harmless or giving them to a wizard in his hire to do with.disbelieving joy. Not knowing Hound's connection with the warlord and his wizard, they treated him."Very nice," said the father. "But anybody can play the fife, you know."..Yet as Dory spoke he saw what the girl saw: a long hill going down into darkness, and across it,.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/D...20%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (3 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].Otter stood motionless, effaced, as Anieb had stood in the room in the tower..From Sesesry on the east coast of Ark where he left his passengers, having danced the Long Dance there, he sailed up the Ebavnor Straits, intending to head west along the south shores of Omer. He kept the illusion spell about his boat. In the brilliant clarity of midsummer, with a north wind blowing, he saw, high and far above the blue strait and the vaguer blue-brown of the land, the long ridges and the weightless dome of Mount Onn..latest. He must ask Master Birch to provide him an advance on his salary to pay for ship-passage.water, the living river, forever. There is no death for an otter, only life to the end. But in the.summers..For there had been times when he felt that, as he had summoned her living, so dead she might.light on crockery, the hearth stones, the table. But nobody sat at the table. His enemy was gone..He had no thought of hiding or protecting himself. Luckily for him there were no guards about; there were few guards, and they were not on the alert, since the wizard's spells had kept the prison shut. The spells were gone, but the people in the tower did not know it, working on under the greater spell of hopelessness.."My Lord Patternner, will you defy our Rule and our community, that has been one so long, upholding order against the forces of ruin? Will it be you, of all men, who breaks the pattern?"..the Changer spoke against it at first, and then agreed.."You went wrong. You've come back. But you're tired, Irioth, and the way's hard when you go alone..So

for a half-month or more of the hot days of summer, Irian slept in the Otter's House, which was a peaceful one, and ate what the Master Patterner brought her in his basket - eggs, cheese, greens, fruit, smoked mutton - and went with him every afternoon into the grove of high trees, where the paths seemed never to be quite where she remembered them, and often led on far beyond what seemed the confines of the wood. They walked there in silence, and spoke seldom when they rested. The mage was a quiet man. Though there was a hint of fierceness in him, he never showed it to her, and his presence was as easy as that of the trees and the rare birds and four-legged creatures of the Grove. As he had said, he did not try to teach her. When she asked about the Grove, he told her that, with Roke Knoll, it had stood since Segoy made the islands of the world, and that all magic was in the roots of the trees, and that they were mingled with the roots of all the forests that were or might yet be. "And sometimes the Grove is in this place," he said, "and sometimes in another. But it is always." "It always seemed to me they're sort of alike," he said, "magic and music. Spells and tunes. For one thing, you have to get them just exactly right." "Oh, it's you who have it to spare, sir. We're poor folk here. And ignorant," she said, with a flash of her eyes, and led on. Kurremkarmerruk shook his head. "No. But...." "Sorcerers are nothing to him. He means I could be a wizard. Do magery. Not just witchcraft." For a while I let myself be carried along by the white walkway, until it occurred to me and lifted her up. She stood submissively. Her head fell back, I saw her teeth glistening; I did not. Venway, Torheven and the Torikles, Spevy, Perregal, and parts of Gont were under Kargish to take. "This way," he said, falling into step beside her, and after a while, "This way," and so. The early kings and queens of Enlad, among whose names are Lar Ashal, Dohun, Enashen, Timan, and Tagtar, gradually increased their sway till they proclaimed themselves rulers of Earthsea. Their reign extended no farther south than Ilien and did not include Felkway in the east, Paln and Semel in the west, or Osskil in the north, but they did send explorers out all over the Inmost Sea and into the Reaches. The most ancient maps of Earthsea, now in the archives of the palace in Havnor, were drawn in Berila about twelve hundred years ago. "Yes," she said. "I'm sorry." Her hand was still on his knee. She said, "We can make love if you

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