

## SYPHILIS

There was an old man by our door. woman, I did not immediately grasp, for it reached me when my back was turned, as I was. 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. "No doubt that's what Alder gave you," she said. "The flint!" .wrathily. She stood straight and said nothing. .and in its walls were thin, crimson, crumbling beds of cinnabar... He made no sign. He thought. sorcerer, and a jealousy of him, but above all contempt. He was old, other, not one of them. Fear. her and bring them back to Roke when he returned. So they set off northeast across the Inmost Sea. him that Otter's sister hurried in to tell him, "Hound's won a battle or a fortune! He's riding. and then a vehicle shot along, as if cast from a single block of black metal; these vehicles had no." Bregg. Hal Bregg. And yours?". Dulse thought sometimes in those years about sons and fathers. He had quarreled with his own father, a sorcerer-pro prospector, over his choice of a teacher; his father had shouted that a student of Ard's was no son of his, had nursed his rage and died unforgiving. .asked herself, looking at her strong bare arms, the slight, soft swell of her breasts in the. their magic in prison cells, to gain nothing. There's no way to use power for good. ". Ged," he said. He bowed his head. After a while he looked up and asked, "Will you take my name from me?". "What brought you here, Azver?" the Namer asked. "I've often thought of asking you. A long, long way to come. And you have no wizards in the Kargish lands, I think. ". "I will come, Medra," she said. She held out her thin hand in a fist, then opened it palm up as if. "Only in some very, very old tales. Before the gods were. Before men were. Before men were men. .When she finished in the dairy and went to the house, the new fellow, Hawk, was squatting on the. This first victory went far to establish a reputation of invulnerability for the school on Roke. .He had a way with her cows that was wonderful. When he was there and she needed a hand, he took Berry's place, and as she told her friend Tawny, laughing, he was cannier with the cows than Bren's old dog had been. "He talks to em, and I'll swear they consider what he says. And that heifer follows him about like a puppy." Whatever he was doing out on the ranges with the beeves, the cattlemen were coming to think well of him. Of course they would grab at any promise of help. Half San's herd was dead. Alder would not say how many head he had lost. The bodies of cattle were everywhere. If it had not been cold weather the Marsh would have reeked of rotting flesh. None of the water could be drunk unless you boiled it an hour, except what came from the wells, hers here and the one in the village, which gave the place its name. ". Are you hurt too?". down on her haunches and hid her face in her arms, shutting him out, shutting the world out. .He looked at her, that vivid, fierce, dark face in its rough cloud of hair. She wore only her. "I will take you there," he said, stiffly, laboriously. .crowned king. There is real work to do," the Summoner said, and his voice too was like stone, cold. In the young dowser he recognized a power, untaught and inept, which he could use. He needed much. It may be that Segoy is or was one of the Old Powers of the Earth. It may be that Segoy is a name. But Heleth was shaking his head: "No," he said, "no time. Not your kind of thing." He was more and more distracted by whatever it was he sensed in the earth or air, and through him Ogion felt that gathering, intolerable tension. .through a curtain of warm, moving air. .She stood with the little oil lamp in her hand, and the light of it shone red between her fingers. She followed the Doorkeeper down a stone passageway. Only at the end of it did she think to turn back to see the light shine through the thousand leaves of the tree carved in the high door in its bone-white frame. .This was a hotel, not the Prometheus. I remembered it all: the labyrinths of the station, the. Morred, and Morred's first year on the throne. The capital city of these rulers was Berila, on the. down. .He strode from the house, turned, and set a fire spell on it so that it burst into flames, thatch and walls and every window spouting fire. Women ran out of it screaming. They had been hiding no doubt in the back room; he paid them no attention. "Hound," he thought. He spoke the summoning, using Hound's true name, and the old man came to him as he was bound to do. He was sullen, though, and said, "I was in the tavern, down the way there, you could have said my use-name and I'd have come. ". going all untuned and hoarse. Golden had hoped that that was the end of his singing, but the boy. It cost him a great effort to speak. .That gave her pause. She stood silent. "It's the name the witch Rose of my village on Way gave me, in the spring under Iria Hill," she said at last, standing up and speaking truth. .and regular speaking and hearing of the classics keeps the archaic language meaningful (and. The donkey leaned its head hard against his hand so that he would go on scratching the place just. "No! People?". Medra nodded. .the Changer spoke against it at first, and then agreed. .opposite me with both hands and said: .He never swore- men of power do not swear, it is not safe- but he cleared his throat with a coughing growl, like a bear. A moment later a thunderclap rolled off the hidden upper slopes of Gont Mountain, echoing round from north to south, dying away in the cloud-filled forests. ". You might keep some goats," Silence said. .at least nominally by hereditary lords and ladies, while the Archipelago entire was governed for. He sought among memories, among shadows, groping over and over through images: the assault on his. as they said taught her teachers, became the mistress of all healing arts and the science of. He greeted them and asked, "The Doorkeeper will come?". Island. ". the village down there, when I've got my breath. Listen. Don't fret. I haven't hunted you all. back, penitent, to school. .When he showed signs of reviving during the journey, one of them bashed him on the head, remarking. lifted my head I saw only a black void. Yet, strangely enough, at that moment its blind presence. "Not in your father's house, Di. ". Quite early on, impatient with wooing her massive physical indifference, he had worked up a charm. ". "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. .When I closed the gate behind me, it was all I could do to keep from running. My knees. "There are. Where are you

from?".Grove, only a blur of darkness in darkness now. Then with a rattle like the shaking of sheets of.he would spellbind Gelluk and hurl him into the refining fire, he would bind him and blind him

and.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (43 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].the flare of candles among jagged shadows. He touched the earth of the tunnel's end, took clods of.heart beating long after they are dead. Though it seemed terrible to bury a breathing body, yet he."Why didn't you come to me first?" Dulse had demanded. "And then Roke, to put a polish on it?".there; but those people were unnaturally tall -- and all at once I realized that what I had in front of.the ground near his legs, which were caked with drying mud. When he looked up and saw Ogion's.The boy's drop-jawed stare irritated Hemlock, though he knew it shouldn't. Wizards are used to overweening confidence in the young of their kind. They expect modesty to come later, if at all. "I said Roke," Hemlock said in a tone that said he was unused to having to repeat himself. And then, because this boy, this soft-headed, spoiled, moony boy had endeared himself to Hemlock by his uncomplaining patience, he took pity on him and said, "You should either go to Roke or find a wizard to teach you what you need. Of course you need what I can teach you. You need the names. The art begins and ends in naming. But that's not your gift. You have a poor memory for words. You must train it diligently. However, it's clear that you do have capacities, and that they need cultivation and discipline, which another man can give you better than I can." So does modesty breed modesty, sometimes, even in unlikely places. "If you were to go to Roke, I'd send a letter with you drawing you to the particular attention of the Master Summoner.".He broke free, stood up, stooping; neither of them could stand straight in the low cabin..The tune ended. "Darkrose," he said, behind her in the dark. She turned her head and looked at him. Their heads were on a level, she sitting crosslegged up on the dance platform, he kneeling on the grass..and the one in the village, which gave the place its name..As he left the battlefield it began to rain, and he saw his enemy's true name written in raindrops.magic without giving up their sexuality, were described by celibate men as temptresses, unclean.. "You can? Is it allowed?". "Mother's not home. Come in!" She met him at the door..Her use-name had been Flag, the blue iris of the springs. Her mother and aunt called her Flag when they spoke of her..long, and not meeting his eyes. Like an animal, like a cat, she was, sizing him up but not.Witches were to learn only from one another or from sorcerers. They were forbidden to enter Roke.He stopped before an oak door. Instead of knocking he sketched a little sign or rune on it with the top of his staff, a light staff of some greyish wood. The door opened as a resonant voice behind it said, "Come in!". "Don't you understand?" he said, exasperated with her for not understanding, because he had not.him. The thing that was hopping up and down on the grass between their bare toes was a rock. When.They set off along the wharves, asking for a ship bound south that might take a wizard and his.me now?".We were in something like a huge entrance hall or corridor, wide, almost unlit -- only the.on deck every day and slept there on the warm nights. Ivory had not tried to coax her into the.This was a contest, then, a foe worth fighting! Early took a step backward and then, smiling, raised both his arms outward and up, very slowly but steadily, unstayed by anything the other man could do..Port had not softened his hands. He brought the boards from Sixth's mill in Re Albi, driving.among the women who practiced magic..without knowing him, right away. . .".silence, as if she did not understand any of them.. "A little gift," Diamond said indistinctly. "Enough for tricks.". "A woman," said the Master Summoner..Erreth-Akbe, sailing into the bay "with sails worn transparent by the eastern winds," could not.When he had done what he could to warn the city, and seen all the gate-guards and port-guards.For a moment longer they held still; then the night wind blew across their naked shoulders, and.Yaved, as Ogion's true name was Aihal. He walked about there all one day, as if seeking something..himself the gull, or an eagle, or a dragon, who flew above and before the fleet, and when the men.Ivory nodded gravely. "But the Archmage lost all his power in the land of death. Maybe all magery was weakened then.". "If Roke was now what it once was, known to be strong, those who fear us would come again to destroy us," said Veil.I am doing the wrong, I am the ill, Irioth thought. He stopped the spell words in his mouth,.dragons the wing..they could, seeing him as the source of the worst evils they suffered, a malign being. In those.more he thought about it. The prospect of spending the long grey winter at Westpool sank his.Golden chewed very slowly, his eyes on the table. Diamond had seen his father look like this when a forester reported an infestation in the chestnut groves, and when he found a mule-dealer had cheated him.. "To see you!".he was crossed, or frightened, then he did harm. He turned a kettle of boiling water over a cook.Diamond nodded eagerly.. "Have you ever kept goats?" Dulse asked, in the same soft, polite voice..the companions who had stayed loyal to him, most of them sailors who had brought their ships to. "Do wizards have no family?". "You didn't say it.".better. He knew that magic itself resists untruth. Conjuring, sleight of hand, and false commerce.destroyed their own cities and fields; sailors sank their ships; and his soldiers, obeying the.made one gesture of her hand, downward to the earth..her own will, by her own means. He could not summon her, could not even think of her, and would.was Irioth. Maybe in time he would be another man. No; that was wrong; he must be this man. This.That would be unwise," he said, with a good imitation of the Master Changer's terse solemnity. "If.her free. I know nothing. If you know how to be free, I beg you, teach me!". "Oh, you are a pretty man," said the woman who had spoken first, laughing, as he held the red ribbon up to her black braid. "And I wish I had something for you!". "Pure?".listening in silence..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (83 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "You're crazy," she said, very angry. It was a sweet.anger. Why could not more anger be sweet?. "What can I give you?" she asked..A man came up the mountain to Woodedge, a charcoal burner from Firm. "My wife Nesty sends a message to the wise women," he said, and the villagers showed him Ayo's house. As he stood in the doorway he made a hurried motion, a fist turned to an open palm. "Nesty says tell you that the crows are flying early and the hound's after the otter," he said..Havnor openly. Men of arms didn't trust men of craft and didn't like to serve them. No

matter what not recall how or when I entered a wide avenue; at an intersection I slackened my pace, lifted my of chambers rose up into the tower through smoke and fumes. In those chambers, Licky had told him..drew back a little. She drew back. They sat back on their ankles..Hemlock dismissed that with a flick of his hand. "I am talking of the True Art," he said. "Now I ways around it as part of himself. He took the shortcut at Rissi's well and came out before midday.of his art. He found out what he could. Then the boy was no good for anything and had to be.The Song of the Young King, sung annually at Sunreturn, the festival of the winter solstice, tells.of him on Roke Dulse did not know. Silence did not say. He had learned there in two or three years.against the blaze shoveled and reshoveled ore onto logs kept in a roaring blaze by great bellows,.The history of the Four Lands is mostly legendary, concerning local struggles and accommodations of the tribes, city-states, and small kingdoms that made up Kargish society for millennia..The wizard's spells still bound their minds together. Otter pressed rashly forward into Gelluk's mind, seeking his true name. But he did not know where to look or how to look. A finder who did not know his craft, all he could see clearly in Gelluk's thoughts were pages of a lore-book full of meaningless words, and the vision he had described-a vast, red-walled palace where silver runes danced on the crimson pillars. But Otter could not read the book or the runes. He had never learned to read..you dream it to be, but that, too, you'd learn."..returned, the Great Dragon Orm flew to the City of Havnor and threatened the towers of the king's.In Endlane and the villages round the foot of Onn on Havnor, women spinning and weaving sing a riddle song of which the last line has to do, maybe, with the man who was Medra, and Otter, and Tern..in their midst. The one nearest me -- I saw stupid eyes, whites shining, and trembling lips --.been enough of that kind of intimidation lately. But it went against his grain. He didn't like to.He said nothing. She squatted down to find out what was in the basket. "Peaches!" she said, and smiled..ONE."Everything's perilous," Dragonfly said, gazing now through the sheep, the hill, the trees, into.observations concerning nature, agriculture, sea lore, and crafts, cautionary tales and parables,

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