

A LENTEN JOURNEY

"Just for the food and the fire, you know, the peat costs so much now," she was saying, and then looked at what he offered her. After a while Ged gently drew the older man to him and held him in his arms. He said something. THIS IS THE FIRST PAGE of the Book of the Dark, written some six hundred years ago in Berila, on. but though she hugged him she drew away again, frowning. gesticulating mannequins that spun like tops, that furiously did gymnastics; they handed one. His father had named him Banner of War. He had come west, leaving all he knew behind him, and had. He nodded. "Left myself halfway," he said. He looked up; the Patterner was coming towards them. bones need the sun. The wizard stood still in the doorway of his house, between the dark room and. "It's cold out," she said. "Ice on the trough this morning. Will you be going on, this day?" you. But I can't bear to see you unhappy, without pride! I don't know. Maybe you're right. Maybe. Rose made a dim glow of werelight so that they could find their way through the marshy ground. celibate as anyone, sir. "He does," she said. "He heals the cattle." called him. The sparkweed, past flowering, cast its ashes on the wind. There were streaks of grey. He bowed. "Ivory, of Havnor Great Port, at your service. May I -". locked in its muteness. and ship traffic dwindled under piracy, cities and towns withdrew inside defensive walls; arts. Sorcery was practiced by men-its only real distinction from witchery. Sorcerers trained one another, and had some knowledge of the True Speech. Sorcery included both base crafts as defined by Halkel (finding, mending, dowsing, animal healing, etc.) and some high arts (human healing, chanting, weatherworking). A student who showed a gift for sorcery and was sent to Roke for training would first study the high arts of sorcery, and if successful in them might pursue his training in the art magic, especially in naming, summoning, and patterning, and so become a wizard. the West Reach, Selidor. There, on the outer beach, both exhausted, they faced each other and. She reached out and touched his hand. He drew his breath sharply. The witch said nothing. She knew the girl was right. Once the Master of Iria said he would or. all the miles to Woodedge. All he said was "She saved me," and the carter asked no questions. The ship's weatherworker came aboard just before they sailed, no Roke wizard but a weatherbeaten. Space wasn't half so scary, half so strange, or even half so alien, as what Hal Bregg. Licky came back to the barracks with them. Gelluk bade Otter goodnight in his soft voice. Licky shut him as usual into the brick-walled room, giving him a loaf of bread, an onion, a jug of water. she slid down in his arms. He tried to keep her head at least from the mud of the track. Her limbs. drew back a little. She drew back. They sat back on their ankles. "They show me what I should do," Irioth said, "and who I am. They know my name. But they never say. in the west, or Osskil in the north, but they did send explorers out all over the Inmost Sea and. When he unbound him, the boy tried to pretend he was still stone, and would not speak. Early had. a pen, a cage. How could any of them keep their balance in a place like that?. directions, not illuminated by a single spark. "I will," he said, to comfort her. he thought of it. It was unnatural, and could exist only under great force, the pressure of a. sarcophagi. What did they do in them? But such things I encountered all the time, and tried not to. once," she said. "All that you say of yourself may be true, and may not. What can you tell me that. was some sniggering and shushing. "When he gets himself a girl," Golden said, in answer to whatever it was she had been saying. Two long curves appeared on the Doorkeeper's cheeks, enclosing the slow upturn of his smile. The. where it's safe, and where the great robbers and killers would least look for it, since no one. When I closed the gate behind me, it was all I could do to keep from running. My knees. his own clean comfortable home, even more different from the cold austerity of the wizard's house. "Would you come back to me?" he said. "Would you go with me, live with me, marry me, Darkrose?" under him were wet, and groped till his hand found water. He drank, and tried to crawl away from. "Of course," Golden said, pleased with his son's caution. He had thought Diamond might leap at the. "he'll be all squared away. Living with the wizards, you know, the way they are, it set him back a. impurities fester and run free from their sores. And then when they're burned clean at last they. learn an art you had no native gift for. In such discussions they worked out the names that ever. name? Or a creeping traitorous sorcerous servant of those upstart landgrabbers who stole Westpool. grief. And so, when it became clear that the boy had a gift of magery, his father tried to beat it. "You can? Is it allowed?" Morred and Elfarran. In the third year of his reign, the young king went south to the largest. "If I told you my name," he said, "my true name-". And they talked about that, all the wise women of the island: what was the true art of magic, and where did it turn false; how the balance of things was kept or lost; what crafts were needful, which useful, which dangerous; why some people had one gift but not another, and whether you could learn an art you had no native gift for. In such discussions they worked out the names that ever since have been given to the masteries: finding, weather-working, changing, healing, summoning, patterning, naming, and the crafts of illusion, and the knowledge of the songs. Those are the arts of the Masters of Roke even now, though the Chanter took the Finder's place when finding came to be considered a merely useful craft unworthy of a mage. The boy's drop-jawed stare irritated Hemlock, though he knew it shouldn't. Wizards are used to. She turned away from him and them and went on up the hill in the gathering darkness. As she went. "Were there any women there?" second day he was there, she told him to come with her and led him very far into the wood. They. said, using the name he had given the boy in the springs of the Amia, a word that in the Old. "Tell them-tell them I was wrong," Irioth said. "Tell them I did wrong. Tell Thorion-" He halted. treeless valley, past grass-grown dumps and tailings. "Thus." And Ard's long arms had stretched out and upward in the invocation of what Dulse would know later was a great spell of Transforming. Ard spoke the words of the spell awry, as teachers of wizardry must do lest the spell operate. Dulse knew the trick of hearing them aright and remembering them. At the end he repeated them in his mind in silence, sketching the strange, awkward gestures that were part of them. All at once his hand stopped. A globe of misty, greenish fire drifted swiftly down the corridor at eye level, apparently. "What all the students do.

Live alone in a stone cell and learn to be wise! It might not be what."How does he hold them all?" the Namer said. "Herbal, you were here when Sparrowhawk and Thorion remembering her father, but the motion of the leaves and shadows drew it on. She saw him drunk..Berry went and fetched his sister, after he had heard Sunbright's tale at the tavern, and San's old Archmage to come crown him, and he wouldn't come. And there was no new Archmage. So he took there, intensely gathered, suffering: drew breath: looked straight into the wizard's eyes..he felt cold, cold through, though he was sitting in the full heat of the summer's day. We are."Should I speak to him?" Gift asked in a steady voice..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (14 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].them of your decision to go to the School on Roke, if that is what you decide; or to the Great.saw a slope running down from where he lay towards a wall of stones, across which was darkness.Dragons are born knowing the True Speech, or, as Ged put it, "the dragon and the speech of the dragon are one." If human beings originally shared that innate knowledge or identity, they lost it as they lost their dragon nature..She looked at the door of the bedroom. It opened and he stood there, thin and tired, his dark eyes full of sleep and bewilderment and pain..The hierarchic and centralising tendency of this religion lent support at first to the ambition of the Kings of Hupun on Karego-At. By force of arms and diplomatic maneuvering, the House of Hupun within a century or so conquered or absorbed most of the other Kargad kingdoms, of which there had been more than two hundred..gift untaught is a ship unguided," they said to Otter, and they taught him all they knew. It.sellers and net makers and such, had gone from Roke to other lands around the Inmost Sea, weaving.him. The thing that was hopping up and down on the grass between their bare toes was a rock. When."This is the center," said Veil. "We must keep to the center. And wait.".Tarry came back with his band in an hour or so, ungrateful for the respite and much the worse for beer. He interrupted the tune and the dancing, telling Labby loudly to clear out..went off into the darkness with a numb face, like a child who has been shown the falseness of a.go in.".Hound had taken him, had stood and seen his people beaten senseless, had not stopped the beating..But, then, we hardly know each other," she said. She was freer, it seemed. She smiled..came cooler air. I turned. The stewardess was standing by the partition wall, not touching it with.All this took only two days, and all the time Early was looking and probing toward Endlane village, sending Hound there before him, sending his own presentment there to watch. When he knew where the man was he betook himself there very quickly, on eagle's wings; for Early was a great shape-changer, so fearless that he would take even dragon form..I made myself comfortable in the chair. The girl, her hand on her hip -- her abdomen."Father does. He saw some of the stuff we were practicing. But he says Hemlock says I should come study with him because it might be dangerous not to. Oh," and Diamond beat his head with his hands..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (34 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].years, in the minds of most people, all magic was black..The hillside in front of him trembled, writhed, and opened. A gash in it deepened, widened. Water sprang up out of it and ran across the wizard's feet..But a year or so later he saw Diamond out in the back garden with his playmate Rose. The children were squatting on their haunches, heads close together, laughing. Something intense or uncanny about them made him pause at the window on the stairs landing and watch them. A thing between them was leaping up and down, a frog? a toad? a big cricket? He went out into the garden and came up near them, moving so quietly, though he was a big man, that they in their absorption did not hear him. The thing that was hopping up and down on the grass between their bare toes was a rock. When Diamond raised his hand the rock jumped up in the air, and when he shook his hand a little the rock hovered in the air, and when he flipped his fingers downward it fell to earth..Silence bowed his rough, thoughtful head..something not right in her smile. From the exit I said:broken staff..long as they showed them, and him, due respect..But if he lets you in, then from inside you see that the door is entirely different - it's made.wise, eh?" he said. "Maybe the Doorkeeper." He looked at her now, not glancing but squarely, his.mechanical and violent. I stood and watched, hearing, behind me, the steady sough of hundreds.the silken dip between her eyes, scratching her forehead at the roots of the nubbin horns..development of the worship of the Twin Gods Atwah and Wuluah, originally heroes of a desert saga.change in position, but I kept forgetting. It was not pleasant -- as if someone were following my.Dulse paused. "He was my master. Would have been my friend, perhaps, if I'd stayed on Roke. Have wizards friends? No more than they have wives, or sons, some would say.... Once he said to me that in our trade it's a lucky man who finds someone to talk to. Keep that in mind. If you're lucky, one day you'll have to open your mouth..effectively as the central government of the Archipelago..more quicksilver than he had, therefore he needed a finder. Finding was a base skill. Gelluk had.The next thing she thought was a beggar, a lost man, in dirty clothes, hugging himself with.those of the kings..stride among them rousing them right and left with his knotted rope. The sail was half down, the.often; the chance of his ever having to use it was very slight. He let the terrible spell sink.unable to see Ivory as perilous. She didn't understand him, but the idea of fearing him, him.He saw her now more clearly than he had seen her in the tower. He saw her more clearly than he had ever seen anyone. He saw the thin arms, the swollen joints of elbow and wrist, the childish nape of her neck. It was as if she was with him in the room. It was as if she was in him, as if she was him. She looked at him. He saw her look at him. He saw himself through her eyes..You changed yourself?..castration and butchery. He had a pleasure in their trust in him, a pride in it. He should not..Ivory," said the Doorkeeper. "A lad from Havnor Great Port, whom I let in three years ago, and let out again last year, as you may recall..In the early darkness of a winter day, a traveler stood at the windswept crossing of two paths, neither very promising, mere cattle tracks among the reeds, and looked for some sign of the way he should take..There's not much worth much in my life," she said, gazing down at the pavement. "All I know how to do is run the farm, and try to stand up and speak truth. But if I thought it was all tricks and lies even on Roke, I'd hate those men for fooling me, fooling us all. It can't be lies. Not all of it. The Archmage did go into the labyrinth among the Hoary Men and come

back with the Ring of Peace. He did go into death with the young king, and defeat the spider mage, and come back. We know that on the word of the king himself. Even here, the harpers came to sing that song, and a teller came to tell it."agreeing on the Way-or the Rule, Waris wants us to call it-is twice the work of building the.all but the greatest of them conceal their true names. In the lay Hasa's Voyage, the dragons.crowd, Abs offered me his hand with an understanding smile: "Easy, now. . .".There was the silence. Then a fish leapt from the black, shaking water, a white-grey fish the.Roke, as she had said, he must serve her. He did so willingly. She had walked with him in the."Where old Early went with the great fleet. I see. Friends there. Well, I know one of the ships is.Mead looked at her sister. "Then it's time we talked a bit to you," she said, sitting down across.not even the hall that I had left: I knew this by the absence of those enormous columns. But, then,.But how did Otter know that?.patrols south of Omer, running a stolen fishing boat with the magewind. The patrol caught them.He sought among memories, among shadows, groping over and over through images: the assault on his.all the eastern sky he saw the foam and spittle run scarlet from her mouth. Sometimes she clutched.When it came to teaching what he knew, he was tireless, generous, and exacting. For the first.It may be that Segoy is or was one of the Old Powers of the Earth. It may be that Segoy is a name.change being. But this was different, this slow enlargement. I am vastening, he thought.."He's not too well," she said, speaking low. "He was curing the cattle away out east over the.clay brick puffed into dust, and the Armed Cliffs leaned together, groaning. It was Ogion they.So well in hand did Early have Losen's men that within two days the great fleet set forth from.one against the other in duels and combats of sorcery, careless of the evils they did, or worse."Enough of that, my dear," Dulse said, laying his hand on it. "Come now. No wonder I kept thinking about Silence. I should send for him ... send to him ... No. What did Ard say? Find the center, find the center. That's the question to ask. That's what to do..." As he muttered on to himself, routing out his heavy cloak, setting water to boil on the small fire he had lighted earlier, he wondered if he had always talked to himself, if he had talked all the time when Silence lived with him. No, it had become a habit after Silence left, he thought, with the bit of his mind that went on thinking the ordinary thoughts of life, while the rest of it made preparations for terror and destruction..Then he was back in himself, with the fierce hurt in his arm and hip and head, sick and dizzy in.It was far more convenient to him that Losen should be king than that he himself should rule.right enough! I'll have him here as long as I choose, and that's the end of it.".Otter felt as if he were being brought back to vivid life from interminable, dreary, dazed half.THE SCHOOL ON ROKE.the Mountain.."Somebody's been coming around," he said, incredulous that she could turn against him. "Who's been.She looked up and saw the Hoary Man come out of a dark aisle of great oaks and come towards her.Ring of the Runes was broken, and Erreth-Akbe died with the great dragon, and Maharion the Brave