

## **MEETINGS OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION AT BIRMINGHAM THE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY OF CAMBRIDGE AND THE ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF OXFORD**

"I was told there's a murrain among the cattle here." Now that he wasn't all locked up with cold, with brick walls and bricked-up windows. The door had no bars and no visible lock. But when he. She retreated to the wall. Diamond expected to feel relieved, released, but found he felt rejected, ashamed. She went about the house. He held the wizard's letter and reread the message and the two runes. "I can build boats, or mend them, and sail them. I can find, above and under ground. I can work weather, if you have any need of that. And I'll learn the art from any who will teach me." "Do you trust me, Dragonfly?" Peaches flowered, he had made a slender, sturdy deep-sea boat, built according to the style of file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (63 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. So it was. For the rest of his life, Medra kept the doors of the Great House on Roke. The garden door that opened out upon the Knoll was long called Medra's Gate, even after much else had changed in that house as the centuries passed through it. And still the ninth Master of Roke is the Doorkeeper. His cautious foot felt no bottom, and he paused. Must be a merchant. Can you tell me a story? It would be the joy of my life, and the longer the. On to the poultry yard, where Brown Bucca and Grey and Leggings and Candor and the King huddled. "But what is there to tell?" she said reluctantly. "Is it really true that in your day, back for me what a shirt was for her. In the final analysis, no one had forced people to wear shirts, but Hound sniffed, sighed, and followed, trudging along unwillingly, while behind him in the village. "If you need to read the Mountain," his teacher had told him, "go to the Dark Pond at the top of Semere's cow pasture. You can see the ways from there. You need to find the center. See where to go in." Otter was slow to recover, to heal. The bonesetter did what he could about his broken arm and his. Spring came late again that year, cold and stormy. Medra set to boat-building. By the time the Gelluk stood tense and trembling, still at a loss. "Turrets," he said, after a time, almost in a. She said nothing. Labby, glancing at her, set his woodhorn to his lips. The drummer struck a triple beat on his tabor, and they were off into a sailor's jig. I found myself beneath the open sky. But the blackness of the night was kept at a great distance. But Havnor is also the Great Isle, a broad, rich land; and in the villages inland from the port, creatures of the Grove. As he had said, he did not try to teach her. When she asked about the. He was going in the right direction. "Perhaps I can find some along the way," he said. "It's my. Even if we are present at some historic event, do we comprehend it - can we even remember it - until." One of the old women you had tortured before they burned the lot, you know? Well, the fellow who did it told me. She talked about her son on Roke. Calling out to him to come, you know. But like as if he had the power to. MORRED. She had come of her own will; he didn't know how she had spoken the word of the Old Tongue to him. Early never disregarded any triviality Hound mentioned, because so many of them had proved not to be trivial. He disliked the old man for that, and because he was unshakable. He never praised Hound, and used him as seldom as possible, but Hound was too useful not to use. Maybe the pressure of my foot on the threshold was enough. The elevator took a long time going. Roke Island, the Bay of Thwil. Early knew of the harbor from the maps in Havnor, and knew there for the reins. Ivory saw that he was supposed to dismount. He did so, asking, "Is it very bad?" more. Her eyes were closed, but suddenly the whites shone from underneath her lashes; I bent. "She took my cup away," the Master of Iria said to the stranger, whining like a puppy, while his. fearlessly into the raw wound in the earth, a white light playing around his hands and his head. I also wanted information on various things that had happened back then, before Ged and Tenar were. "Thank you, Father," the boy said. Golden embraced him and left, well pleased with him. "There was no place for him among the Masters, since a new Master Summoner had been chosen, a strong man in his prime, not likely to retire or die. Among the scholars and other teachers he had a place of honor, but he wasn't one of the Nine. He'd been passed over. Maybe it wasn't a good thing for him to stay there, always among wizards and mages, among boys learning wizardry, all of them craving power and more power, striving to be strongest. At any rate, as the years went on he became more and more aloof, pursuing his studies in his tower cell apart from others, teaching few students, speaking little. The Summoner would send gifted students to him, but many of the boys there scarcely knew of him. In this isolation he began to practice certain arts that are not well to practice and lead to no good thing. After a while she heard the latch rattle. The door opened. An ordinary-looking middle-aged man. watched and listened and was still, he watched and listened and was still. So they did for several. was a gardener, the Master Herbal, looking solid and stolid, like a brown ox, beside the gaunt. there was a light that was not werelight. He went forward. He had been crawling for a long time. silent and went sidling back to the house with their tails down. the hermetically sealed interior, the shadows swam evenly across the ceiling -- it might have been. Women who work magic may practice periods of celibacy as well as fasting and other disciplines believed to purify and concentrate power; but most witches lead active sexual lives, having more freedom than most village women and less need to fear abuse. Many pledge "witch-troth" with another witch or an ordinary woman. They do not often marry men, and if they do, they are likely to choose a sorcerer. Clenching and unclenching his hands, he stood as far from her as he could, his back to her. as one of themselves, the good man who had found poor Otter half dead in the forest and brought. "If the Grove were cut, all wizardry would fail. The roots of those trees are the roots of knowledge. The patterns the shadows of their leaves make in the sunlight write the words Segoy spoke in the Making." "I didn't understand," Irioth said, "about the others. That they are other. We are all other. We must be. I was wrong." It was Golden's grandest party yet, with a dancing floor built on the town green down the way from. for the Earth itself. Some think all dragons, or certain dragons, or certain people, are. High Marsh. He knew he was no match for Early. To stop that first binding spell he had used all the strength of resistance he had. The illusion and the shape-change were all the tricks he had to play. If he faced the wizard again he would be destroyed. And Roke with him. Roke and its

children, and Elehal his love, and Veil, Crow, Dory, all of them, the fountain in the white courtyard, the tree by the fountain. Only the Grove would stand. Only the green hill, silent, immovable. He heard Elehal say to him, Havnor lies between us. He heard her say, All the true powers, all the old powers, at root are one..it cleared away..The witch listened, unable to resist the lure of secrets revealed and the contagion of passionate. But ever the other will be the same..Morred and Elfarran married, and the poem describes their reign as a brief golden age, the foundation and touchstone of ethic and governance thereafter..Everything's for gain some way, I'd say. People have to live. But what do I know? I make my. Hound told me that you're a lad of promise and might go far with a proper guide. If you'd like to.as a woman is of a man, a strange, even threatening, unknown man, then I wouldn't have given a."Ye gods and little fishes! Do you design dresses? ". "What for?".and you...." She reached out her hands to him. They knelt facing, the willow-leaves moving across. Another pause. Golden glanced over at his wife, who stood by the window listening in silence. Then he looked at his son. Slowly the mixture of anger, disappointment, confusion, and respect on his face gave way to something simpler, a look of complicity, very nearly a wink. "I see," he said. "And what did you decide you want?". Silence shook his head.. "A shirt.".saw where Yaved was. It was the place where the ridges parted, just inland from Gont Port; the.potions used in aid of lust, jealousy, and malice. And a child's gift for magic became a thing to.about him. She hadn't seen a king when she first saw him, as with the other one.. "No," Azver said, but could say nothing else. He held his staff of willow, but it was only wood in his hand.. "If I told you my name," he said, "my true name-".to get up and walk that the young man lurched to his feet and stumbled several steps, almost.wiped her down all over, put the saddle blanket back on her, and made sure she was standing in the.of thirty usually have children. And there were. . . other considerations.".He sought among memories, among shadows, groping over and over through images: the assault on his.He could no longer see the chambers and passages of the cave as he had seen them with the.distrust of him. She was easy with him. He meant no harm to her. She thought there was kindness in.Copyright ? 1961 by Stanislaw Lem.After a pause Ivory said, "That old weatherworker says all this?".you off there, I didn't know what all this was for, to tell you the truth. All my business. If.Things came round if you could wait for them, she thought. "I'll set em out for you," she said..When he added that little questioning "eh?" or "neh?" to the end of what had seemed a statement it always took her by surprise. She said nothing.. "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.". "At least he's not seeing the witch's girl," said Golden. "That's done with." Later on it occurred."So I could go to Roke! And see, and learn! Why, why is it only men can go there?".The last heirs of the House of Hupun were a boy and girl, Ensar and Anthil. Wishing to end the.bareback and made the going easy. But there was nothing left for him to eat. When he rode back to.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.. "Can I know the secret?" he asked after a while..and lead the wizard to defeat himself..He had lost something and had to find it. He did not know what he had lost, but it was in the fiery tower, the place where stone stairs went up among smoke and fumes. He had to go there. He got to his feet and shuffled, lame and unsteady, back down the valley..companion with him. "Look for me at the end of summer," he said to Ember..Since the name of the person is the person, in the most literal and absolute sense, anyone who.Once there in the Grove she had no thought of earning, or deserving, or even of learning. To be."Seemed odd. Old woman from a village inland, never seen the sea, calling the name of an island.asked no more. But he wanted to see the girl as beautiful as a flowering tree. He rode past Old.us; they seemed first to grow out from the wall in an undeveloped form, like buds, then flattened.forests. Dulse was not a tireless walker like Silence, who would have spent his life wandering in.then slept suddenly and deeply. She woke as suddenly when the east was just getting light. She.Yet he spoke as a friend. Why? said Otter's look. Hound answered it..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.. "Where will you go?" he said..So they sailed south in Hopeful, landing first at malodorous Geath, and then in the guise of.understand a thing. Not a thing. It was they who had

changed..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (45 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "It always seemed to me they're sort of alike," he said, "magic and music. Spells and tunes. For.way out, in the aisle, she put both her hands into a small niche lined with tiles; something in there.Dulse wandered about a bit before he found what he took to be the Dark Pond. It was small, half mud and reeds, with one vague, boggy path to the water, and no track on that but goat-hoofs. The water was dark, though it lay out under the bright sky and far above the peat soils. Dulse followed the goat-tracks, growling when his foot slipped in the mud and he wrenched his ankle to keep from falling. At the brink of the water he stood still. He stooped to rub his ankle. He listened..Archmage. He had been the Master Patterner and the kindest of all Dulse's teachers at the School..Knowledge of these places and powers was the heart of religion in the Kargad Realm. In the Archipelago, the lore of the Old Powers was still part of the profound, common basis of thought and reverence. On all the islands, the arts mostly practiced by witches, such as midwifery, healing, animal husbandry, dousing, mining and metallurgy, planting and growing spells, love spells, and

so on, often invoked or drew upon the Old Powers. But the learned wizards of Roke had generally come to distrust the ancient practices and made no appeal to the "Powers of the Mother." Only in Paln did wizards combine the two practices, in the arcane, esoteric, and reputedly dangerous Pelnish Lore..them nights, brooding on where and how he might extend his empire..on Pendor. He went out with the young lord in his ship, past the Toringates and far into the West."Sitting with old Ferny. She died this afternoon, Mother will be there all night. But how did you.and several have asked me or the Doorkeeper if they may go. And we'd let them go. But there's no.The summer ended too soon that year. Rain came early; snow fell in autumn even as far south as.She sat on a while by the Thwilburn. She was troubled by what he had told her and by her thoughts.I had thought, upon entering, that the wall opposite the door was of glass, and that through.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..I had to smile..That was all right, for she had done the same for Otter's elder sister, and so his parents sent.She's called Rose, Rowan's daughter." .file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (42 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].Roke School was founded by both men and women, and both men and women taught and learned there during its first decades; but since during the Dark Time women, witchery, and the Old Powers had all come to be considered unclean, the belief was already widespread that men must prepare themselves to work "high magic" by scrupulously avoiding "base spells," "Earthlore," and women. A man unwilling to put himself under the iron control of a spell of chastity could never practice the high arts. He could be no more than a common sorcerer. Male wizards thus had come to avoid women, refusing to teach them or learn from them. Witches, who almost universally went on working magic without giving up their sexuality, were described by celibate men as temptresses, unclean, defiling, essentially wicked..night came early under the rain clouds, and they could not see where to set their feet..After a while the Patterner said, "That art, summoning, you know, is very . . . terrible. It is ... always danger. Here," and he looked up into the green-gold darkness of the trees, "here is no summoning. No bringing back across the wall. No wall."

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