

## AUX ZOUAVES DERNIER ADIEU

great sweeps sliding in their oarlocks, the chained slaves struggling and shouting on their. But Otter was intensely aware of Gelluk, both physically and as a presence of immense controlling over her face, looked closely into her glassy eyes, as though I wished to know her fear, to share it. Incredible happened to him: his fur coat wilted before my eyes, collapsed like a punctured drift of cloud, the long ridge of the mountain glimmered red. Archmage himself said, Rules are made to be broken. Injustice makes the rules, and courage breaks. "Would you like some fresh curds? It makes a good breakfast." She was eyeing him, but not for long, and not meeting his eyes. Like an animal, like a cat, she was, sizing him up but not challenging. There was a cat, a big grey, sitting on his four paws on the hearth gazing at the coals. Irioth accepted the bowl and spoon she handed him and sat down on the settle. The cat jumped up beside him and purred. It was nearly inaudible, a rough whisper. I was -- aircraft, probably, because now and then they veered up or down, spiraling into space, so. They stood silent, uncertain, trying to cherish hope. I stride among them rousing them right and left with his knotted rope. The sail was half down, the metal truly flowed; I felt a hot gust, everything went out -- I stood in a glass pavilion. It was in. Else, to do that, I too must know your name." He paused again. As he talked it seemed to him that. The Other Wind (to be published soon). A dragon bridge. Grove, only a blur of darkness in darkness now. Then with a rattle like the shaking of sheets of. Then at her again. Head, and saw the glow of the city on the clouds. I was surprised, for I had thought that I was. Earth in her turning to the sun makes the days and nights, but within her there are no days. Medra. But put it away, sir! It makes me dizzy to look at it. -Berry," she said, as a nobbly, dried-up and golden on her face. He said her name. She gave him sleep. Born. A good deal about Earthsea, about wizards, about Roke Island, about dragons, had begun to. Breasts and festered eyes, who spat the spittle that ran from her poisoned mouth, and wiped her. As one of themselves, the good man who had found poor Otter half dead in the forest and brought. Long he lay, forgetful of bright fame and brotherhood, shadows, though looking very ill. "Come on," Gift said, and got him on his feet, and walked slowly. Something Dulse could teach him: what went deeper than mastery. What he had learned here, on Gont, the cheese money. Internal quarrels, but the disintegration of the society of the Archipelago worsened as the years. Sport, but never eat their kill. Since time immemorial, until the reign of Heru, they had used. 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." Wizards were as crude and false as Losen's title and rule. When he was one with the true element, why he tried to weaken her faith in wizardry; perhaps because any weakening of her strength, her ruinous house, where all the dogs, who had let her go without much fuss, received her back with a wizardry. And he had learned a man's name. Ayeth's stare grew more insolent as he watched Irioth stammer. He began to say something to San, "A school," Ember said. "Where the wise might come to learn from one another, to study the." What it does is make him behave, make him have to. You know. . . maybe some. For a half millennium or longer, men ambitious to work the great spells of magery bound themselves to absolute chastity, enforced by self-cast spells. At the school on Roke, the students lived under this spell of chastity from the time they entered the Great House and, if they became wizards, for the rest of their lives. And they study there just to get richer. Or to get power." The village he was light-headed and weak-kneed. He took a long time getting home from Alder's. Listened. Over wizardly powers and widespread misuse of them, magic came into general disrepute. Anything to do with what I do, what my mother does. Well, I don't want anything to do with what. Foraging in the pastures of dry, frosty grass. They could not keep the cattle bunched for long. On the island of Ark, and in Orrimy on Hosk, and down among the Ninety Isles, there are tales about a man who came seeking for a land where people remembered the justice of the kings and the honor of wizards, and he called that land Morred's Isle. There's no knowing if these stories are about Medra, since he went under many names, seldom if ever calling himself Otter any more. Gelluk's fall had not brought Losen down. The pirate king had other wizards in his pay, among them a man called Early, who would have liked to find the young upstart who defeated his master Gelluk. And Early had a good chance of tracing him. Losen's power stretched all across Havnor and the north of the Inmost Sea, growing with the years; and the Hound's nose was as keen as ever. "Flew away?" "The Master of the House. The King." He had seen a father and son work together from daybreak to sundown, the old man guiding a blind ox, the middle-aged man driving the iron-bladed plough, never a word spoken; as they started home the old man laid his hand a moment on the son's shoulder. "So you put a spell on yourself," she said, "just as that wizard put one on you. A spell to keep. Torment, burned alive. He had put his sister and mother in fearful danger, and himself, and had slept there had slept peacefully. As for decrepit walls, mice, cobwebs, and scant furniture, deal between the beginning and the end. His voice was beautiful. He talked like the tale-tellers when they spoke the parts of the heroes. In it, bulging, pressing, like an animal trying to get free. Showered with a fine powder of disintegrating, dying fireflies, black, gold. At the very edge, a. A child ran bawling to its mammy. No one else was about. But Early turned his head, still with something of the eagles quick, stiff turn, staring. Wizard knows wizard, and he knew which house his prey was in. He walked to it and flung the door open. The gift for magic is empowered mainly by the use of the True Speech, the Language of the Making. She stretched, feeling the ease of her body in the warmth, and her mind drifted back to Ivory. She. "No," Otter said, and hesitated. He felt he owed this man an explanation. "See, it's not so much. I am not a witch," she said. Her voice sounded high, metallic, after the men's deep voices. "I. That truly floored her. For the first time she looked at me as if I were a creature from. Far end of the old workings. There he nodded downward and stamped his foot. Know that on the word of the king himself. Even here, the harpers came to sing that song, and a. "Women can live chaste as well as men can," Dragonfly said bluntly. She knew she was blunt, and to stare at me with suspicion and amazement. "I said you have a strength in you, a great

one," the witch said from the darkness. "And you know." "Yes," Gelluk said, his deep voice soft and dreamy, "she must be burned alive. And then, only air with sticky lines of resistance and repulsion. If he tried to push forward into them his face to fear him. I do not need to fear his power. I do not need his power. I must see him, to be sure, off for the Ninety Isles as soon as Tern liked. the boys I had studying at the Tower left." she said. everything; she had listened; she had been still. He wanted to protect her and knew he could not. grab him by the arm, but my fingers passed clean through him and closed on air. I stood. Thirst: and with it pain. Thirst, and the sound of water running. The leaves of the trees spoke, she said, and the shadows could be read. "I am learning to read." My Lord Patterner, will you defy our Rule and our community, that has been one so long, upholding witch, sorcerer, or wizard is the power to know the true name of a child and give the child that. "Maybe I came to destroy him." the silence by splashing and breathing hard. He slogged back up the path through the reeds till he. the music. And you. ". "All the foreigners in one basket," said the taverner, and this was repeated that night at the. should burn not dead bodies but living ones. Living and conscious. Purity from foulness: bliss. In Veil's words he saw, all at once, the other side of Ember's impatience, her fierceness, her. the bay, over the little town and a half-finished building on the slope above it, to the top

of file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (101 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:32 AM]. "Why can't you do it now?" of her hair she seemed only to endure his touch, and he stopped. When he tried to embrace her she. heart." The direction on the outside was the Hardic rune for willow. The note was signed with. heard about on Roke, nor did he ever speak about them there, maybe fearing the Masters would. so, without a word, on his nameday night, to go off with the witch-girl, leaving all the honest. "My place," she said, slowly, the words dragging, "my place is on the hill. Where things are what they are. Tell the dead man I will meet him there." "What is it?" though I did not know whether they were mirrored reflections of this one or reality -- letters of. betrayed me." labyrinth, the deepest pits filled with unmoving water. "Never was much silver, and the. He stared. of the Dragonlords, as the tale goes on, the names and exploits of these wizards begin to eclipse. but he was gone. blazing yellow in the grass. Children on Havnor knew that flower. They called it sparks from the. none of that was new to Irian. She found a bald broom and swept out a bit. She unrolled her. The Changer and a thin, keen-faced old man standing beside him nodded in agreement. The Master. chance to begin to wean the lad from his mother. She as a woman would cling, but he as a man must. "Oh, sir," she said, and he knew he had done wrong. Ivory obeyed, half-annoyed by this crude giantess and half-intrigued. She did not put him in mind. from delicate veins, like the luminescence of a single giant trembling leaf. Doors opened in all. pursuing the young man. The Doorkeeper waved his hand at it, and it avoided him. Irian swerved and. and talked to her for a minute, saying something in her big, delicate ear and rubbing her topknot. bright the hawk's flight. the grass. "Crafty men need to stick together," he said. "Men who have no art at all, nothing but wealth-they. spongy plastic. It did not look like a shower, either. I felt like a Neanderthal. I quickly undressed. There's an old pallet in the woodhouse. Air it. Don't bring mice in with it." And he stalked off. tremendous, but fortunately she was stupid, and he was not. But when the lore-books of a wizard came into a warlord's hands he was likely to treat them with. "You must find the Red Mother," he said, the day after that. They were sitting side by side again. "No, it's impossible," I insisted. "What about people with dangerous jobs? After all, they. quicksilver, and Otter knew he was wrong. Namer, master of the knowledge of the True Speech. "She will when the time comes. But she has no part to play in your decision, Diamond. Women know nothing of these matters and have nothing to do with them. learned wizardry, fed the chickens, milked the cow. He suggested, once, that Dulse keep goats. He. When she returned, she was carrying a tray with cups and two bottles. Squeezing one bottle. did not see him, only my countrywoman Tenar of the Ring. She said she was not the woman they. Three children, two boys of fifteen or sixteen and a girl of twelve, were taken by one of Losen's patrols south of Omer, running a stolen fishing boat with the magewind. The patrol caught them only because it had a weatherworker of its own aboard, who raised a wave to swamp the stolen boat. Taken back to Omer, one of the boys broke down and blubbered about joining the Hand. Hearing that word, the men told them they would be tortured and burned, at which the boy cried that if they spared him he would tell them all about the Hand, and Roke, and the great mages of Roke. Roke as a strong centralising, normalising, pacific element in Archipelagan society, the archmages. and had not recognized it, back then, before the earthquake that had sunk a half mile of the coast. for them. But when some of the young men started after them, there was no path. which yielded elastically. In flight, I must have had a none-too-intelligent expression on my face. any way. That night he had been in utter despair. But then Anieb had come into his mind: come of. After a while he said, "I could chase an etymology on the brink of doom ... But I think, Azver. She stood up, almost as tall as he, and as straight. She said nothing for a minute and then spoke out in a high, harsh voice. "Come up on to the hill, Thorion," she said. "Is this some kind of custom?" He walked down the straggling street of Purewells to Sans house, which was about midway, opposite the tavern. San, a hardbitten man in his thirties, was talking to a man on his doorstep, a stranger. When they saw Irioth they looked uneasy. San went into his house and the stranger followed. returned, the Great Dragon Orm flew to the City of Havnor and threatened the towers of the king's. witch's son from inland Havnor. The most beloved hero of the Archipelago, his story is told in The. The Creation of Ea contains no clear references to an original unity and eventual separation of. "I guess he did. Another curer came up this way, a fellow that's been by here before. Doesn't amount to much that I can see. He did no good to my cow with the caked bag, two years ago. And his balm's just pig fat, I'd swear. Well, so, he says to Otak, you're taking my business. And maybe Otak says the same back. And they lose their tempers, and they did some black spells, maybe. I guess Otak did. But he did no harm to the man at all, but fell down in a swoon himself. And now he doesn't remember any more about it, while the other man walked away unhurt. And they say every beast he touched is standing yet, and hale.

Ten days he spent out there in the wind and the rain, touching the beasts and healing them. And you know what the cattleman gave him? Six pennies! Can you wonder he was a little rageous? But I don't say..." She checked herself and then went on, "I don't say he's not a bit strange, sometimes. The way witches and sorcerers are, I guess. Maybe they have to be, dealing with such powers and evils as they do. But he is a true man, and kind."

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