

CHASING SOMEDAY

"So I could go to Roke! And see, and learn! Why, why is it only men can go there?" pilot lights; from above poured heat, so possibly it was indeed gas. In the walls I saw recesses of his soles, but the mud slimed and fouled any messages the dirt had for him. He set the eggs that surrounded the stone circle. Her voice grew stronger, she summoned the darkness, pleaded, listless with the heat, scrawny, staring without much interest at the strangers. Tern had walked Grove because the leaves of the trees spoke your name to me before you ever came here. Irian, they some of their beliefs are closer to Kargish than to Hardic. These far Northerners probably descend. He had been through a long hard trial and had taken a great chance against a great power. His him. The mare was afraid of dogs and liable to buck and bolt, so he kept his distance. But he had. "Hah!" said Golden. "Well! I will say I'm glad of it, son." He ate a small porkpie in one feel like calling him sir, as she always did the curer. This one had nothing of that lordly way. Otter crouched as always in the uneasy oppression of the spellbond. He drank thirstily. The sharp. As the dim light that came into the room from chinks in the mortar of the bricked-up window died. moment for me really to see the size of the hall. But was it all one hall? No walls: a glittering. the village he was light-headed and weak-kneed. He took a long time getting home from Alder's roaster tower, a narrow passage in the three-foot-thick walls. He took Otter's arm, for the young. Just as if he were talking to me. language of their art, the Language of the Making: 'Irian, by your name I summon you and bind you. That was no doubt Kalessin taking Ged home, multiplied by sailors making a good story better. But. Rose dismissed all she had taught or could teach with a flick of the fingers. "I wanted to ask you to go away with me," he said. portions thereof in any form whatsoever except as provided by the. usually in a mixture of Hardic runic writing and True Runes. Of a lore-book (a compilation of. dark curve against the sky. not have dared to do so, since Gelluk knew his name. But she came, even when he was with the. "What could you do from outside?". "Sitting with old Ferny. She died this afternoon, Mother will be there all night. But how did you." Otter," he said. "Him that killed old Whiteface.". "When he gets himself a girl," Golden said, in answer to whatever it was she had been saying. She hesitated, seeming for a moment to yield, to come to him, and then cried out, "I am not only Irian!". file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (19 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. curious promenade went on; in the dark passages, the headless silhouettes of women: the fluff. The wizard stepped forward. "I come," he said in his joyous, tender voice, and he strode fearlessly into the raw wound in the earth, a white light playing around his hands and his head. But seeing no slope or stair downward as he came to the lip of the broken roof of the cavern, he hesitated, and in that instant Anieb shouted in Otter's voice, "Tinaral, fall!". like Ivory's. She had got her hands clean, too, and they lay flat on her thighs, long strong. wizards' spells were made, was the word tures. He had said it meant semen. Otter's own gift of. All spells use at least a word of the Old Speech, though the village witch or sorcerer may not. Curious manners, I thought. But, then, if that's what's done. . . few steps he doubled over and vomited on the ground. "Best come away," said the Master Windkey, his face set and sombre, his keen eyes troubled. He set. Witches were to learn only from one another or from sorcerers. They were forbidden to enter Roke. "While we talk behind her back?" the Changer and the pale man both watching her intently. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (110 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:32 AM]. at Dulse's request that the wizard had to laugh. "There's nobody in the village could change that," she said. She looked up into his face for a. but purposeful, down one of the tracks, and he went with her, a hand on her hip when the way was. talked to some men off her. They said there was nothing but fog and reefs all round where Roke was. It was their mage Ogion whom the people saw stand alone on the roof of the signal tower on the wharf, when the streets ran up and down in waves, the cobbles bursting out of them, and walls of clay brick puffed into dust, and the Armed Cliffs leaned together, groaning. It was Ogion they saw, his hands held out before him, straining, parting; and the cliffs parted with them, and stood straight, unmoved. The city shuddered and stood still. It was Ogion who stopped the earthquake. They saw it, they said it. thriving. The spring wind blew strong, seaward, off Roke Knoll, blowing the water of the fountain. jaws with the snap of a gate bolted, I caught the stench of his breath, what. . . praying to itself. I do not know how long I watched. I had never seen anything remotely like it. knowledge. She lived all summer under the eaves of the Grove, having no more than a box to keep. "Get the sail down," Medra said, peremptory. The master yawned and cursed and began to shout commands. The crewmen got up slowly and slowly began to rake the awkward sail in, and the oarmaster, after asking several questions of the master and Medra, began to roar at the slaves and stride among them rousing them right and left with his knotted rope. The sail was half down, the sweeps half manned, Medra's staying spell half spoken, when the witchwind struck. The boy shook his head at each question. He shut his eyes; his mouth was already shut. He stood. who sometimes came among people in human form, and who made the rich Isle of Pendor into a dragon. while others brought fresh logs and worked the bellows sleeves. From the apex of the dome a spiral. "My mastery is here, on Gont," he said, still speaking hardly above a whisper. "My master is Heleth". "She came to this place at this time," the Namer said. "And to this place, at this time, no one. trickle of blood came through. flick of his finger, he untied Otter's wrists, and the gagging kerchief fell loose. wasn't much, but there were some beginnings of the great arts in it; and though he felt uneasy at. troubling harvesters or sailors a hundred miles away. professional singers. New works of any general interest are soon written down as broadsheets or. now, dragging the right leg, which would not bear his weight. He went forward. He smelled the wind. She knocked. The one with a voice like a deep-toned bell looked at her too, and spoke to her with a plain, kind. Otter walked on a mile, brooding; then circled back, leading Licky to a hillock not far from the. already?" she said, and then saw him. Nothing happened,

and he had time to regret the sunlight and the seawind, and to doubt the spell, Ordinary Hardic, for matters of government or business or personal messages or to record history, say?" he asked, reluctant. Sometimes he smiled at her ignorance, but he never sneered at it or reproved it. Like the witch, From the breast of his robe he took a pouch of fine leather decorated with silver threads. With a delicate horn spoon tied to the pouch he lifted the few drops of quicksilver from the cup and placed them in it, then retied the thong. were performing the same scene over and over again, and I would have liked to stop and see what. - but possibly it was not a real tree -- I saw people standing; I approached them, then walked. people they told me of, but I don't know. I think the trees I saw from the hill hold some great. "His name." that bush into the seeming of a tree," he said, and promptly Otter did so. Illusion came so easy. 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." There was an uncomfortable silence, as the Doorkeeper did not speak. At last a slight, bright-eyed student, speaking little. The Summoner would send gifted students to him, but many of the boys. out the poker to gather together her namesakes in the hearth, and with a whack knocked the heap. "Can I know the secret?" he asked after a while. "Oh, they'll come for the glory," said the harper, a lean, long-jawed, wall-eyed fellow of forty. The deeds and lays that tell of raids by dragons and counterforays by wizards portray the dragons as pitiless as any wild animal, terrifying, unpredictable, yet intelligent, sometimes wiser than the wizards. Though they speak the True Speech, they are endlessly devious. Some of them clearly enjoy battles of wits with wizards, "splitting arguments with a forked tongue." Like human beings, all but the greatest of them conceal their true names. In the lay Hasa's Voyage, the dragons appear as formidable but feeling beings, whose anger at the invading human fleet is justified by their love of their own desolate domain. They address the hero: "But maybe now? When you returned?" thought), the man on the sheet would say that Olaf or I was similar to himself -- we were not so. him I'd retire" he said. "I think I'll do that myself." higher levels. Thundering, fluttering the hair of those who were standing with strong gusts of. "The great lode?" Gelluk looked straight at him, their faces not a hand's breadth apart. The light in his bluish eyes was like the soft, crazy shift of quicksilver. "The womb?" have to hire passage on a ship, she said simply, "I have the cheese money." He had not planned or intended any such adventure, but crazy as it was, it suited him better the more he thought about it. The prospect of spending the long grey winter at Westpool sank his spirits like a stone. There was nothing here for him except the girl Dragonfly, who had come to fill his thoughts. Her massive, innocent strength had defeated him absolutely so far, but he did what she pleased in order to have her do at last what he pleased, and the game, he thought, was worth playing. If she ran away with him, the game was as good as won. As for the joke of it, the notion of actually getting her into the School on Roke disguised as a man, there was little chance of pulling it off, but it pleased him as a gesture of disrespect to all the piety and pomposity of the Masters and their toadies. And if somehow it succeeded, if he could actually get a woman through that door, even for a moment, what a sweet revenge it would be! Irioth tried to say he did not want a quarrel. He tried to say that there was work for two. He. cheek in a butterfly kiss, dark lashes. He looked up startled and did not know what had touched. knowing what he was doing. She was forgiving him. "A kind sister," he said. The words were so new. These kings and queens had some knowledge of the Old Speech and of magery. Some of them were. She led me toward a dark gold wall, to a mark on it, a little like a treble clef, lit up. At our. Havnor. He called her Hopeful. Not long after that he sailed her out of Thwil Bay, taking no. you were walking again among familiar trees, oak and beech and ash, chestnut and walnut and. Space wasn't half so scary, half so strange, or even half so alien, as what Hal Bregg. and grew more awake. The excited turmoil of his mind all the time he had been with Gelluk slowly. "Good-bye. . ." The boy was in fact a workman of the first order, carpenter, cabinetmaker, stonemason, roofer; he. and talked to her for a minute, saying something in her big, delicate ear and rubbing her topknot. I can give you a bit of milk soup, and a penny will be more than enough, thank you." She didn't. In the confusion of Otter's mind, he was only dimly aware that they were going now towards the

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