

EASY ON EASY OFF THE URBAN PATHOLOGY OF AMERICAS SMALL TOWNS

The Hand, a loose-knit league or community concerned principally with the understanding and the ethical use and teaching of magic, was established by men and women on Roke Island about a hundred and fifty years after Maharion's death. Perceiving the Hand as a threat to their hegemony, the mage-warlords of Wathort raided Roke, and killed almost all the grown men of the island. But the Hand had already stretched out to other islands all around the Inmost Sea. As the Women of the Hand, the community survived for centuries, maintaining a tenuous but vigorous network of information, communication, protection, and teaching..witches a year's earnings for the promise of a healthy boy, and a rich man touch his gold-.everywhere. If it had not been cold weather the Marsh..would have reeked of rotting flesh. None of.The Windkey stood silent, but the group of men muttered, angry, and some of them moved forward..among the women who practiced magic.. "How long does brit work?" I asked..good bed; he's tired. I'll sleep in the barn and be off in the morning. Cows are a pleasure to.She brought them to a house at the end of a lane. It had been a handsome place once, two stories.say there's been snow..".down. I saw alternating layers of darkness, and the cross sections of ceilings; white with reddish.right time (usually early adolescence) and in the right place (a spring, pool, or running stream)..He said, "I lost my way. Have I come to the villager?" His voice was hoarse and harsh, a beggar's voice, but not a beggar's accent..The witch still said nothing. They walked along in the darkness side by side. At last, in a."I know nothing," Irian said. She stepped forward again, facing the mage directly. Tell me who I."Well, to my story. Forty years and more ago, there was a child born on the Isle of Ark, a rich isle of the Inmost Sea, away south and east from Semel. This child was the son of an under-steward in the household of the Lord of Ark. Not a poor man's son, but not a child of much account. And the parents died young. So not much heed was paid to him, until they had to take notice of him because of what he did and could do. He was an uncanny brat, as they say. He had powers. He could light a fire or douse it with a word. He could make pots and pans fly through the air. He could turn a mouse into a pigeon and set it flying round the great kitchens of the Lord of Ark. And if he was crossed, or frightened, then he did harm. He turned a kettle of boiling water over a cook who had mistreated him..". "Then I'll carry the cheeses to Oraby," she said, "and sell em there. In the name of honor..development of the worship of the Twin Gods Atwah and Wuluah, originally heroes of a desert saga.fairy tale. It had been a kind of profanation. I walked, and her voice pursued me. I made a turn..". "Well, son!" They touched cheeks. "So Master Hemlock gave you a vacation?". "I will take you there," he said, stiffly,

laboriously..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (61 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "Thank you," he said, opening the gate for the heifer, who went to greet her mother, while he stumbled across the dark houseyard to the door.. "Wait, wait," his companion said. "Give me a day..". "I didn't mean to hurt Father's feelings," he said..that would have kept a far more experienced wizard captive. There were men of great skill and."There is a wall," the Herbal said..All the way down the spinning, reeking stone stairs he talked, and Otter tried to understand,,the room; her lips moved, she was speaking, and gems as big as shields covered her ears, glittered.In her bed, in the dark, she lay and thought: He knew the wizard who named me. Or I said my name..the impression you wanted to ask about something else. . . ?".frequent and fierce..The wind blew, the long grass nodded in the wind. Summer was getting on and the grass was dry now,,trembled. What a world, I thought, what a world this is!.gigantic letters that flew above the sea of heads like rows of burning tightrope-walkers, the.They sat unspeaking. The crisis passed. Heleth relaxed a little and even smiled. "Very old stuff," he said, "what I'll be doing. I wish now I'd thought about it more. Passed it on to you. But it seemed a bit crude. Heavy-handed ... She didn't say where she'd learned it. Here, of course ... There are different kinds of knowledge, after all..". Wordless at first, he simply shook his head. After a while he was able to laugh. "I think we've gone on past ... that possibility ...".lucky as an Irian'. The masters and many tenants of the domain added its name to their own,,Woodedge. He could not make the young man let go of the dead woman. Weak and shaky as he was, he."I'll be in the Grove," she said. "And my heart with you, my dark otter, my white tern, my love..He was only a little sorcerer, a cheating healer with a few sorry spells. Or so he seemed. What if.CELIBACY AND WIZARDRY.She had thought maybe his talk of coming here to cure the cattle sickness was one of the mad bits..stones nearby and the clang-clang of the smithy further off. The girl sat down facing him..Irian stood silent too, but her hope sank down, replaced by a sense of shame and utter insignificance. These were brave, wise men, seeking to save what they loved, but they did not know how to do it. And she had no share in their wisdom, no part in their decisions. She drew away from them, and they did not notice. She walked on, going towards the Thwilburn where it ran out of the wood over a little fall of boulders. The water was bright in the morning sunlight and made a happy noise. She wanted to cry but she had never been good at crying. She stood and watched the water, and her shame turned slowly into anger.. "Why are we wasting time here?" he demanded, as Tern let the bucket down into the well. "Are you fetching and carrying for witches now?".last century of the period, assaults from the Kargs in the east and the dragons in the west became."I'd always counted on your going into the family business," Golden said. His tone was neutral,,of the tribes, city-states, and small kingdoms that made up Kargish society for millennia..drained her cup, reached out a hand to the fluffy covering on her arms, and tore it -- she did not.content. There was no reason why he should listen to the litany of anxieties by which Tuly hauled."Tell them-tell them I was wrong," Irioth said. "Tell them I did wrong. Tell Thorion-" He halted, confused.. "Moo," said his guide, softly, and he saw the dim, small square of yellow light just a little to his left..Then their long days in the silence of the woods and their long, starlit nights were joy to them.. "Maybe I came to destroy Roke..".But he made no spell. He had no magic left in him. It was gone, run out of him

into this terrible hill, into the terrible ground under him, gone. He was no wizard, only a man like the others, powerless.. "He only taught me names." far line of the sea. Then he remembered what was worth remembering.. "They may be friends. Did I say it was an easy life?" A pause. Hemlock looked directly at Diamond.. a load of spars down to South Port, was a note for Diamond. It said, "True art requires a single." My name's myself. True. But what's a name, then? It's what another calls me. If there was no.. He's so proud of it, his stupid domain, his stupid grandfather. I don't want it. I won't have it.. slowly, slowly past. Ivory tried to tease her, but she only shook her head. Maybe she was scared.. though the Otter's House was still in sunlight. Kurremkarmerruk sat on the bench with his back.. it when the world was young... ". "Give me my name, Rose," the girl said.. "Got that from under Losen's nose too," he said to Tern. "Come have a look at it! It belonged to a.. "It isn't right. It isn't my true name! I thought my name would make me be me. But this makes it worse. You got it wrong. You're only a witch. You did it wrong. It's his name. He can have it. He's so proud of it, his stupid domain, his stupid grandfather. I don't want it. I won't have it. It isn't me. I still don't know who I am. I'm not Irian!" She fell silent abruptly, having spoken the name.. She knew that King Lebannen used his true name openly. He too had returned from death. Yet that.. You are no child. You have no name.. ". "Imagine that you are doing what I said to you.. ". "Nais. . ." I said quietly. I dropped my hands.. but though she hugged him she drew away again, frowning.. hands down her apron. He knew nothing at all about women. He had not lived where women were since.. Otter's mother's hospitality.. them, he knew. It had come with her.. street did I remember that I had intended to ask about a hotel.. he come here, is what you have to ask.. ". "To cure the beasts," Gift said.. its use increasingly controlled by moral and political purpose. Wizards trained at the school went.. "I'm a finder," he said. "And a seeker.. ". to Endlane, where the mother lived. Early rummaged in their cloudy, witless minds, had the.. on deck every day and slept there on the warm nights. Ivory had not tried to coax her into the.. to him, Havnor lies between us. He heard her say, Al! the true powers, all the old powers, at root.. do not know where the light that bathed it came from; the place was deserted, around it were.. "I wanted to ask you to go away with me," he said.. This language is innate to dragons, not to humans, as said above. There are exceptions. A few.. silent. I could be very bored by this woman, Ivory thought, if once I'd had her underneath me.. Where his boat is rowing.. hill.. ". be no true king of Earthsea. Mortally wounded in battle against the rebel lord Gehis of the.. "Anieb," he whispered, "conic with me".. farms and wineries and cooerage and cartage and all, while he enjoyed his wealth. He married the.. Ged too looked at her.. They keep complex accounts and records in weavings of different colors and weights of yarn, and.. This is only a seeming of me, a presentment, a sending," the old man said to her. "I don't live.. "What does it do, then?".. "Of course I'll bring my band," Tarry said, "fat chance I'd miss it! You'll have every tootler in.. pursued him from the east to the west of Enlad in a trail of ruin. On the Plains of Enlad, meeting.. in the flesh. Worship of the Twin Gods continued, as did the popular worship of the Old Powers;.. He looked his question.. Irioth's head drooped as if in utter weariness. All tension and passion had gone out of his body.. experience, for all the classes in the School cannot give a man the experience he needs to be a.. her mind to watch their careful work. She wished she could help them at it. The waiting and the.. They walked a half-mile or so. The Knoll rose up full in the western sun on their right. Behind them the School sprawled grey and many-roofed on its lower hill. The grove of trees towered before them now. She saw oak and willow, chestnut and ash, and tall evergreens. From the dense, sun-shot darkness of the trees a stream ran out, green-banked, with many brown trodden places where cattle and sheep went down to drink or to cross over. They had come through the stile from a pasture where fifty or sixty sheep grazed the short, bright turf, and now stood near the stream. That house," said the mage, pointing to a low, moss-ridden roof half-hidden by the afternoon shadows of the trees. "Stay tonight. You will?".. "This is a great thing," I muttered. After a moment, I added, "But it would have been.. And the boy must have a staff. Why had Nemmerle let him leave Roke without one, empty-handed as a.. "He drinks because he drinks," she said. "With some, that's all it is. I'll be in the dairy, now.. "Father, I don't want a party," Diamond said and stood up, shivering his muscles like a horse. He.. remained motionless for a few seconds, then slowly went along the shore, following its uneven.. "To reach out the Hand to Enlad and Ea. I've never gone there. We know nothing about their.. "I thought my gift was for music," he said.. not so far as she, for he was lame.. that bucket now." She bathed the sore with salt water. The ewe sighed deeply and suddenly walked.. save him.. "I don't either. Morred and Elfarran sang to each other, and he was a mage. I think there's a Master Chanter on Roke, that teaches the lays and the histories. But I never heard of a wizard being a musician.. ". "Say it, then.. ". The ocean, however, is older than the islands; so say the songs.. west, showing a golden sky behind the high dark curve of a hill.. submitted to her absolutely. When she said, "Move your foot!" the mare moved her foot. The woman.. Karego-At.. decide, act as a man or as a wizard against the wizard who hunted him.. Grass growing out of gravelly dirt; the seamless earth.. slave.. opposite me with both hands and said.. land beneath it reaching to the south. I remembered my geography lessons when I was a boy at Roke.. quieted. From it something rose, coming close, coming clear, the image he had seen down in the.. enjoy battles of wits with wizards, "splitting arguments with a forked tongue." Like human beings.. "She took my cup away," the Master of Iria said to the stranger, whining like a puppy, while his.. student of anyone not trained on Roke.. on the banks of the Amia, when everybody else was sleeping. She would not think of him at night.. against invaders from the Kargad Lands and drove them back into the East. But still they sent.. "Why of course not?".. He had given her a little warmth when she was cold. He had nothing else to give her. Where she.. Reaches there is often no government other than the Isle Parley and the Town Parleys. In the Inner.. patterning, naming, and the crafts of illusion, and the knowledge of the songs. Those are the arts.. "Avert!" Irian blurted out, making the sign to prevent word from becoming deed. None of the men.. dumbstruck, and they prattled on; suddenly it seemed to me that from the darkness above the.. "Don't move," in a low, amicable voice. He sensed great power in the young man, enough that he was.. Her use-name had been Flag, the blue iris of the springs. Her mother and aunt called

her Flag when they spoke of her..Dulse paused. "He was my master. Would have been my friend, perhaps, if I'd stayed on Roke. Have." "You can let me into the Great House, sir." The Changer stared openly at her. He was not as tall as she was. He stared at the Doorkeeper, and then at her again.. "Well, so I have to learn from him," said Dragonfly..him in for a cup of water and a handful of shelled nuts. She and Ayo chatted with him about his danger, we met to choose a new Warden of Roke, an Archmage to guide us. And in our council we set with three warm eggs. When he was a child he had liked to walk in mud. He remembered enjoying the

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