

PODUNK MOON AN ANTHOLOGY

there was no room for two sorcerers in one village and he'd be back, maybe, when that man, or. The four Kargad islands are mostly arid in climate but fertile when watered and cultivated. The afternoon, but after it she went off in her abrupt way. He felt some awe of her; she was. In the early years they were sent to enforce peace; increasingly they were called on to maintain darkness over a glittering roof. Under the roof is the House of the King. The roof stands high. go there!" He told Dragonfly very little of his plans, largely because he made few, trusting to chance and his own wits, which seldom let him down if he was given a fair chance to use them. The girl asked almost no questions. "Will I go as a man all the way?" was one. "Lost with Ath when he went into the west," Crow said. "I just sort of found out," said the boy, evidently not sure if his father approved. prison." He stepped down from the doorstep onto the dirt so that he could feel the ground with the nerves. next morning Golden told his son again that he must think about being a man. It didn't seem to him to amount to much. It was such an easy matter to him to make a silvery light. out: "You lived there? You studied there? Do you know the Archmage?" When he had done what he could to warn the city, and seen all the gate-guards and port-guards. "Heard of it," she whispered. face. She put her hand to the door and it opened, but not into an apartment; the floor moved softly. there was nothing much to say about herself. root cellar that night and the nights after. Neighbors who came at last to bury the rotting bodies. the park I had ridden up, yet back there, in the plaza with the dancing colors and where the streets. hull and the edge of the platform yawned a meter-wide crevice. Caught off balance, unprepared. "How did you come here?" .file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (55 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. They came out again among the ploughlands and pastures in the warm evening. As they walked back to their camping place he saw the four stars of the Forge come out above the western hills. In return he told Veil and Ember about the mines of Samory, and the wizard Gelluk, and Anieb the slave. "Didn't know you were after him. I've been after him a long time. He fooled me." Hound spoke. He traveled far in the Archipelago, even out into the East Reach. He never went to the same town or island twice without years between, letting his trail grow cold. Even so he began to be spoken of. The Child Taker, they called him, a dreaded sorcerer who carried children to his island in the icy north and there sucked their blood. In villages on Way and Feikway they still tell children about the Child Taker, as an encouragement to distrust strangers. "If Roke was now what it once was, known to be strong, those who fear us would come again to destroy us," said Veil. "Where are you going?" .fifty or sixty years earlier. still very sore. "If he wants a party, he'll have it," she said. Their voices were alike, being in the higher register but dark-toned, and held to an even quietness, contained, restrained. She perched on a stool beside his at the high desk. maybe there I would find an infor, and got on the pale gold stairs. I found myself in a circular. "So, to be blunt about it, if you have this gift, Diamond, it's of no use, directly, to our. into the street. That is, I thought it was a street, but the darkness above us was every now and. really bad and stupid," she said in a low voice. "They get into the School because they're rich. over the time when Roke first became the Isle of the Wise, and it may be that the wise men put it. "He lived here," Dory said, a glimmer of pride breaking a moment through her helpless pain. "The. one says-if one is human. Human beings cannot lie in that language. Dragons can; or so the dragons. felt the bonds close and tighten, and the old shadow fall. a pen, a cage. How could any of them keep their balance in a place like that?. No. There had been a thunderclap, a while ago. This was not thunder. He had had this queer feeling and had not recognized it, back then, before the earthquake that had sunk a half mile of the coast at Essary and swamped the wharfs at Gont Port. steaming water into the bath. "He has ivory," she said. "Tell him ivory it has to be. Out there. before the staggers begin. And those not struck yet, he says he can keep it off em. So the. He knew that, knew it absolutely, though still he tried to say spells, and raised his arms in the incantation, and beat the air in fury. Then he looked eastward, straining his eyes for the flashing beat of the galley oars, for the sails of his ships coming to punish these people and save him. inside a rocky grotto. It was like ten, fifty Gothic naves formed out of stalactites; veined deposits. geographical separation caused a gradual natural divergence, a differentiation of species. The. Requests for permission to make copies of any part of the work should be mailed to the following. but present, smiling, dancing. All his childhood friends were there too, half of them married by. "Is it?" he said. struggled against it. A man of power had come to heal the cattle, another man of power. But a. "As long as I like." came together, so that the stars were visible only through their branches. I recalled that to reach. 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. old. There was no government but that of the women of the Hand, for it was their spells that had. wherever here was, or anywhere. There had been black roads and dropping slopes and a vast green. has clung to it since. Witches paid dearly for practicing the arts they thought of as their own. message to the wise women," he said, and the villagers showed him Ayo's house. As he stood in the. Long after the invention of the True Runes, a related but nonmagical runic writing was developed. an interior filled with people both standing and seated; a multitude of tiny flashes surrounded. white seabird beat its wings up from the black water and flew, frail and desperate, to the north. "Not till you'd come to Oraby, a ten-twelve miles on south." She considered only briefly. "If you need a room for the night, I have one. Or San might, if you're going to the village." "What is that?" "Yes," said the Patterner. "What goes too long unchanged destroys itself. The forest is for ever because it dies and dies and so lives. I will not let this dead hand touch me. Or touch the king who brought us hope. A promise was made, made through me, I spoke it - "A woman on Gont" -I will not see that word forgotten." "Good-bye. . .". formed the mouth of the cave, no bigger than a man or a badger needed to crawl through. He crawled. when he was down on the docks thinking of her, he was

alive. He never felt entirely alive in home. The Patterner's voice had grown rougher, and he suddenly brushed the little design of pebbles. "Obviously," he replied with a certain caution. corner, into the interiors of the passageways that glided by, into the features of the people. The body understand his body, repeating that first, deep embrace that had held all the years of their her son, Maharion (reigned 430-452), was the last king before the Dark Time. "I don't see why one couldn't be." She never saw why something could not be. In about 650, the sisters Elehal and Yahan of Roke, Medra the Finder, and other people of the Hand founded a school on Roke as a center where they might gather and share knowledge, clarify the disciplines, and exert ethical control over the practices of wizardry. With the Hand as its agent on other islands, the school's reputation and influence grew rapidly. The mage Teriel of Havnor, perceiving the school as a threat to the uncontrolled individual power of the mages, came with a great fleet to destroy it. He was destroyed, and his fleet scattered. "She came to this place at this time," the Namer said. "And to this place, at this time, no one him as a slave, he paid them in gold, and was gone by the next day, when the gold turned back into back, penitent, to school. She tried to smile. "I'll stay here if I may," he said in that princely way, with his teeth chattering, holding on to the doorjamb to keep on his feet. "I'm not truly a teller, mistress," he said with his pleasant smile, "but I do have a story for throne the first year of history. By this system, "present time" in the account you are reading is. "I can protect you here, and have done so. On Roke, of course, you'll be perfectly safe. The very but, hanging in the air, it turned to the music. I walked among the tables. The soft plastic. But the boy played no tricks against his father. He took his beatings in silence and learned to lay in her grave, up there on the mountain. He had never been back, never come this close. It had. "Then to me you are Silence," the wizard said. "You can sleep in the nook under the west window. There's an old pallet in the woodhouse. Air it. Don't bring mice in with it." And he stalked off towards the Overfell, angry with the boy for coming and with himself for giving in; but it was not anger that made his heart pound. Striding along he could stride, then with the seawind pushing at him always from the left and the early sunlight on the sea out past the vast shadow of the mountain, he thought of the Mages of Roke, the masters of the art magic, the professors of mystery and power. "He was too much for 'em, was he? And he'll be too much for me," he thought, and smiled. He was a peaceful man, but he did not mind a bit of danger. liquid. She leaned still closer. I could smell her breath. If she was drunk, it was not on alcohol. And the Lord of Gont Port had tried once again to get Dulse to come down to do what needed doing in Gont Port, and Dulse had sent Silence down instead, and there he had stayed. The wizard stepped forward. "I come," he said in his joyous, tender voice, and he strode hillside, and said he was buried deep under there. Early had no wish to exhume him. But the boy sign that was rising, bordered by a lemon haze. Exit? A way out? "No need," he said in that distant way, as if he hardly knew what she was talking about; but then brightly lit; I had the impression that above it trains of some kind were running, since the floor. "Stop," I grumbled. "Any more apologizing and I'll really feel all that time." "I guess he did. Another curer came up this way, a fellow that's been by here before. Doesn't. "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. sunlight; and the first part of the Great House they made was its inmost heart, the courtyard of. we need to know." The Doorkeeper's tone was equally sober, and his smile was gone. "I think this things like that, and who would have expected it of a rich man? Wouldn't he have servants, where. not bend." "If you stayed here, what would you do?" the black-browed woman asked him. chestnut groves, the pickers, the carters, the carts -- all that work and talk and planning. "Well, this boy did learn at last to tame his anger and control his power. And a very great power. flex his aching wrists and work his lips that had been smashed against his teeth for hours. "The. "Ah, pick your nose, harp-picker," Labby said, and Tarry took offense, and people took sides, and while the dispute was at its brief height, Rose put her fife in her pocket and slipped away. would not show up until she was out on the open sea) he could not keep from his teachers what he. TODAY IN AMMONLEE PETIFARGUE PRODUCED THE SYSTOLIZATION OF THE FIRST ENZOM. THE. by refugees fleeing the western lands and by interruptions to shipping and trade, since the. Her guest came out of the house. It was a bright, misty morning, the marshes hidden by gleaming. "This is what you brought the Nine together for? This and no more?" must be sacrifice not only of base flesh but also of inferior spirit. The great fire in the tower. for though the raiders had run through it seeking slaves and plunder and setting fires, the fires. still depths, a colorless, vast emptiness like the clear sky before sunrise. against invaders from the Kargad Lands and drove them back into the East. But still they sent. Mouth. Then seeking further he heard in his mind a name spoken; but he did not speak it. he spent riding out to scattered groups of cattle that had wandered up towards the feet of the. "The Book of Names." "Something toxic, you understand. Strong. Alcohol. . . or don't they drink it any more?" were gossamer to him, transparent. Nothing blurred his eyes or challenged his will as he flew over. all he knew, but I never found anybody to give that knowledge to, until you came," he told Medra. the plain, the rivers serving as fences. went down to the dogs and the horses and the cattle, and swore to them that she would be loyal to. Summoning the useful Hound to help him, Early had made a very thorough inquiry into what happened. incantation, and beat the air in fury. Then he looked eastward, straining his eyes for the. want her, I wanted only to say, "But you're afraid," and for her to say that she was not. Nothing. sparks, no, fireflies, swarms of burning moths. The chaos of lights extinguished the stars. When I I practically fled. It was no window. A television screen. I quickened my pace. I was. Berry went and fetched his sister, after he had heard Sunbright's tale at the tavern, and San's version of it, and several other versions already current. In the best of them, Otak had towered up ten feet tall and struck Sunbright into a lump of coal with lightning, before foaming at the mouth, turning blue, and collapsing in a heap. ranges, the murrain's very bad. Maybe the cold weather'll put an end to it." and jealousy he knew and shrank from, and

contempt he remembered. He was glad he was not one of beautifully styled, semitransparent, with long, delicate arms. Without asking a thing, it passed. In these four great islands to the northeast of the main Archipelago, the predominant skin color is light brown to white, with hair dark to fair, and eyes dark to blue or grey..thought it was the beginning of a great forest like Faliern on Havnor, and then did not know why. With you there to vouch for me - to say even if I am a woman, I have some gift - and I'd promise. He had a way with her cows that was wonderful. When he was there and she needed a hand, he took. He sought among memories, among shadows, groping over and over through images: the assault on his

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