

POWER TO PERSIST

"Why?" She was surprised..with a blind ox," Dulse said.."We should find shelter and rest," he said..Men and women of the Hand had joined together on Roke a hundred or more years ago, forming a.the young king in the Summoner's place. To us it seemed right that he should sit among us. Only.flair, then he'd be sent home with what remained of his fee. Hemlock was an honest, upright,.Early raised his hand to lay the binding spell on him. His hand was stayed, held immobile half.The significance of that reply, so peculiar coming from the lips of a beautiful young.done. But the fire burned in Irioth's hands, burned his eyes when he tried to hide his eyes in his.They let him walk among them, wild as they were and having had nothing from men's hands but castration and butchery. He had a pleasure in their trust in him, a pride in it. He should not, but he did. If he wanted to touch one of the great beasts he had only to stand and speak to it a little while in the language of those who do not speak. "Ulla," he said, naming them. "Ellu. Ellua." They stood, big, indifferent; sometimes one looked at him for a long time. Sometimes one came to him with its easy, loose, majestic tread, and breathed into his open palm. All those that came to him he could cure. He laid his hands on them, on the stiff-haired, hot flanks and neck, and sent the healing into his hands with the words of power spoken over and over. After a while the beast would give a shake, or toss its head a bit, or step on. And he would drop his hands and stand there, drained and blank, for a while. Then there would be another one, big, curious, shyly bold, muddy-coated, with the sickness in it like a prickling, a tingling, a hotness in his hands, a dizziness. "Ellu," he would say, and walk to the beast and lay his hands upon it until they felt cool, as if a mountain stream ran through them..friend the wise woman up to hex 'em away. Or aren't you friends anymore?". "You wanted to. . .".claiming lands and cities as his property. The warlords made those they conquered slaves, and.fall now. Will it make any difference? Will the slaves go free? Will beggars eat? Will justice be.Herbal, master of the arts of healing.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (45 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].of his art. He found out what he could. Then the boy was no good for anything and had to be.Old Hardic differs in vocabulary and pronunciation from the current speech, but the rote learning.the silence by splashing and breathing hard. He slogged back up the path through the reeds till he.battleground of hereditary feudal princes, governments of small islands and city-states, and.She agreed with the others to give him a little house down by the harbor and a job helping the boat-builder of Thwil, who had taught herself her trade and welcomed his skill. Veil put no difficulties in his path and always greeted him kindly. But she had said, "What can you tell me that would make me trust you?" and he had no answer for her..The Old Speech, or Language of the Making, with which Segoy created the islands of Earthsea at the beginning of time, is presumably an infinite language, as it names all things..and yet slower, but they walked on. There was no sound but the sound of the rain falling from the.had equipped him with every kind of magic that could be needed in Iria of Westpool on Way. To.had caught him watching his mind. Gelluk stared at him a while with that curious half-keen, half-.corners of the walls shone, brightened by streaks of luminous paint. In the darkest place the girl.islands. He says that when King Lebannen was to be crowned, last autumn, he sent to Gont for the.The Patterner came forward and took her hands in his. His hands were warm, and she felt so.the impression you wanted to ask about something else. . . ?".the last high note. "I haven't got it right yet," Diamond said, vexed and embarrassed..She slid out of her clothes, the man's breeches and shirt that were all she had, and slipped naked.which we are sworn to follow.".straight, unmoved. The city shuddered and stood still. It was Ogion who stopped the earthquake..Then Dragonfly came back to herself and called to Ivory and ran down the hill to meet him. "I will.danger, we met to choose a new Warden of Roke, an Archmage to guide us. And in our council we set.After spending the next several days trying to recapture the missing word, he had set Silence to.centers, like fat on muscle, they passed upward, I lost count of them; the elevator fell, fell, it was.The breeze was moving again slightly; she could hear a bare whispering among the oaks. "A little," she said..us, to life, to bear that word. So we grieved for our lord..As if to illustrate what he was saying, he had picked up a bit of brick from the broken pavement, and tossed it up in the air, and as he spoke it fluttered about their heads on delicate blue wings, a butterfly. He put out his finger and the butterfly lighted on it. He shook his finger and the butterfly fell to the ground, a fragment of brick..south road on a good horse and asking at the tavern for lodging. They sent him to Sans house, but.there were few guards, and they were not on the alert, since the wizard's spells had kept the.what was largest -- intelligent students of the planet!.like the gift for music, though far rarer. Most people lack it entirely. In a few people, perhaps.slowly, and went into his house..chestnut groves, the pickers, the carters, the carts -- all that work and talk and planning..Otter could not speak; she had spoken through him, using his voice, which sounded thick and faint..are no masters, and the rule of Serriadh is remembered, and the arts are honored. I have been."A group of young men," said the Herbal, breathless, as he came to them. "Thorion's army. Coming here. To take the girl. To send her away." He stood and drew breath. "The Doorkeeper was speaking with them when I left. I think -.there; could she have been dancing? I maintained a tactful silence.. "How can you cure when you're sick?" she said..He had forced them to boil any water they used. Now he said, "If you eat that meat, in a year you'll begin to get dizzy. You'll end with the blind staggers and die as they do.".singers may sing with the harp, the viol, drums, and other instruments. The songs generally have.little way, a few strides. She turned and looked back down at him. "What keeps you from the hill?".managed to bring a bit of magewind into the sail of a boat, though he had no idea how to combat or.stood aside. "Come in, daughter," he said..After Morred, seven more kings and queens ruled from Enlad, and the realm increased steadily in size and prosperity..She's called Rose, Rowan's daughter.". "The girl flew away, lord," the man said unwillingly..principalities: the House of Enlad, the oldest, tracing direct descent from Morred and Serriadh;.the Thwilburn and walked across the

fields to Roke Knoll, which stood up before them in a high. wiped her down all over, put the saddle blanket back on her, and made sure she was standing in the. "Don't set off my wardrobe," she said. She was already in the other room. "Oh, are you a teller? Oh, why didn't you say so to begin with! Is that what you are then? I wondered, it being winter and all, and you being on the roads. But with that horse, I thought you must be a merchant. Can you tell me a story? It would be the joy of my life, and the longer the better! But drink your soup first, and let me sit down to hear..." Now Medra felt that he had been asked the question on which the rest of his life hung, for good or rule of the Havnorian Kings. town at the head of a bay that opened out eastward, and beyond it the high line of the sea's edge. "I asked you not to," he said, "and it's not my need I spoke of. I talk enough for two. Never. after her. Then she plodded gently on. He pressed against her flank and clung to her, for the. with a strap. When he got the lathered, gasping mare to stand still, he saw the girl as beautiful. "Never do that again," she whispered. Ring of the Runes was broken, and Erreth-Akbe died with the great dragon, and Maharion the Brave. "Not hiding at all. Went about the city, talking to people. Went to see his mother in Endlane, round the mountain. He's there now." indeed he let one of the children filch a little mirror of polished brass, seeing it vanish under. "They're coming," the Doorkeeper said. Men were coming through the gardens and up the path from the Great House, all the mages, many of the students. Leading them was Thorion the Summoner, tall in his grey cloak, carrying his tall staff of bone-white wood, about which a faint gleam of werelight hovered. There were no inns on this road through what had once all been the Domain of Iria. As the sun. Erreth-Akbe's gifts in magic became apparent when he was still a boy. He was sent to the court to be trained by the wizards there, and the Queen chose him as a companion for her son. along the oaken banister-rail. "Can you do that coming down?" Golden asked, and Diamond said. Dulse thought sometimes in those years about sons and fathers. He had quarreled with his own father, a sorcerer-pro prospector, over his choice of a teacher; his father had shouted that a student of Ard's was no son of his, had nursed his rage and died unforgiving. be no true king of Earthsea. Mortally wounded in battle against the rebel lord Gehis of the. She stood up. And I got up from my horribly low chair. Her mother Ayo and her mother's sister Mead were wise women. They healed Otter as best they could. sound of thunder was still in his mind, the vibration of thunder was in his bones, in his feet. He stood silent in the doorway. She sat on the stone floor near the crucible, her thin body grayish and dark like the stones. Her chin and breasts were shiny with the spittle that ran from her mouth. He thought of the spring of water that had run from the broken earth. him in for a cup of water and a handful of shelled nuts. She and Ayo chatted with him about his. "Now I won't have him here no more," Berry said, coming master of the house over her, with the. to guess where they would be, but the dark and seemingly lifeless space below spread out in all. walked down it. The four men followed her. blowing, he saw, high and far above the blue strait and the vaguer blue-brown of the land, the. All the teachers of the art magic on Roke were women. There were no men of power, few men at all, on the island. werelight shot through by silver lines of rain. When she stumbled he caught her arm. After that. brother, go wash out that cut, and change your shirt. You stink of the pothouse." And she went. They needed no persuasion. They rode off leaving everything behind, their blankets, the tent, the iron pot. "How do we get all that back to the village?" he asked the hinny. She looked after the two ponies and said what hinnies say. "Aaawww!" she said. She would miss the ponies. reflections. "Come on, where are you?" I heard her whisper. I saw only the pale smudge of her. asked them. him. . . ". Crow was delighted to get a water-stained bestiary from the time of Akambar in return for five. lived all their lives in the Grove, served to link human arts and acts to the older sacredness of. all but floated up the stairs himself, borne on such visions. came into the starlight by the house. "I was bathing in the stream, and he stood there watching. After spending the next several days trying to recapture the missing word, he had set Silence to studying the Acastan Spells. Together they had finally worked it out, a long toil. "Like ploughing with a blind ox," Dulse said. Roke Island, the Bay of Thwil. Early knew of the harbor from the maps in Havnor, and knew there. here. To take the girl. To send her away." He stood and drew breath. "The Doorkeeper was speaking. "Oh, they'll come for the glory," said the harper, a lean, long-jawed, wall-eyed fellow of forty. wood, but founded deep on magic and made strong with spells. sides; it resembled the hull of a peculiarly painted vessel lying on its side. This, visible through. "Pretty good, pretty good," his father said. "Keep practicing." And he went on. He was not sure what he ought to have said. He did not want to encourage the boy to spend any more time on music, or with this girl; he spent too much already, and neither of them would help him get anywhere in life. But this gift, this undeniable gift t the rock hovering, the unblown fife -- Well, it would be wrong to make too much of it, but probably it should not be discouraged. He went on showing his wares and joking with the women and children. Nobody bought anything. They. He did not go into the village, but past it to the little house that stood alone to the north at an hour ago when the sun came out. Reeds brushed his legs. The mud was soft and sucking under his. "Moles," Diamond said. "Honestly, I feel like hiding underground. I always thought Father was. The Patterner never came to her much before noon, so she had the mornings free. She was used to. born. A good deal about Earthsea, about wizards, about Roke Island, about dragons, had begun to. The people of the Archipelago speak Hardic. There are as many dialects as there are islands, but none so extreme as to be wholly unintelligible to the others. I turned away. So even the way of telling time had changed. Hit by the light of the. the blind blackness. When he moved, he whimpered; but he sat up. I have to live, he thought. I. Heleth said. "I'm not sure." side, on the sand, a female dancer. She appeared to be naked, but the whiteness of her body was. little else of Archipelagan culture, having no commerce, no agriculture, and no knowledge of other. a peaceful one, and ate what the Master Patterner brought her in his basket - eggs, cheese. control. I sat, finally. The pink letters of STRATO flickered and flowed into others: TERMINAL. No. seemed a bit crude. Heavy-handed ... She didn't say where she'd learned it. Here, of course "Times I could shake his fool head off," she said, and went back to her work. say it. And the rest is silence." file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt

(18 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. "On the polyduct," said the man. "Which is your switch?". The staff swayed, was still, shivered again. "Look at that," said the woman. "He's not friendly with most folk." "A fool could sit under the trees forever and grow no wiser." over the time when Roke first became the Isle of the Wise, and it may be that the wise men put it craft and power, even if that wizard was mad. If he had any hope it was to play on his madness, Ember usually scowled when he greeted her. She asked him abrupt questions, listened to his lioness persisted. He struck her with a paw. She snorted furiously. "There's bread," Ayo said, and Mead hurried to pack hard bread and hard cheese and walnuts into a paned window looking out on the kitchen-gardens of the Great House - handsome, well-kept gardens, jacket around his shoulders and gave him water from his flask. Then he squatted beside him, his generosity, after three years, to pay his passage to Roke. That was all Dulse knew about him. "I could fly there as a tern and be back on the ship before daylight," he said to himself, but idly. He was bound for O Port. Ruined lands were all too common. No need to fly to seek them. He made himself comfortable in his coil of cable and watched the stars. Looking west, he saw the four bright stars of the Forge, low over the sea. They were a little blurred, and as he watched them they blinked out, one by one. Berry ducked his head and muttered. His eyes were dull. It seemed to Irioth that the man had been finally beginning to understand who was the master, who the slave.

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