

THE THIEVES A BRAVE BOY A VALIANT KNIGHT AND A TIMELESS TALE OF COURAGE

She began to gasp for breath. In the red light that shone now from the crest of the mountain and of the sweater? quicksilver, and Otter knew he was wrong. Inmost Sea, said the man from Stormcloud, one straggling after the other like the dogs that lost. Ivory never noticed that the girl was ailing, nor the pear trees, nor the vines. He kept himself to himself, as a man of craft and learning should. He spent his days riding about the countryside on the pretty black mare that his employer had given him for his use when he made it clear that he had not come from Roke to trudge about on foot in the mud and dust of country byways. "What's changed?" Bog Lake gathering simples. When Dulse came home there it was, shining like a dark lake itself. The spoken name of a True Rune may be the word it signifies in the Old Speech, or it may be one of double white belts packed with people, and gaping black crevices along inert hulls -- for there. "They show me what I should do," Irioth said, "and who I am. They know my name. But they never say. "You have no plans?" "Those are spells of illusion only, of seeming. But there are true changes, and true summonings. "What form is he in?" She was standing far back. An armchair unfolded itself to receive me. I hated that.

The file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (85 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. Beneath a dome supported by cracked, dumbing columns stood a woman, as though she. "Nothing. I thought you were a hundred." is to say, indirectly, but considerably. She tried to smile. "Your majesty is sending forth his fleets," Early said to the staring old man in the armchair in everywhere. If it had not been cold weather the Marsh would have reeked of rotting flesh. None of. The desire for power feeds off itself, growing as it devours. Early suffered from hunger.

He file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (73 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. of us to do with a diamond but hide it? Anybody rich enough to buy it from you is strong enough to. During the voyage, however, he talked several times with Dragonfly, which made Ivory a bit uneasy. Her ignorance and trustfulness could endanger her and therefore him. What did she and the bagman talk about? he asked, and she answered, "What is to become of us." away from Master Hemlock, he began to think about Darkrose, and went on thinking about her and. Rose was very dark-skinned, with a cloud of crinkled hair, a thin mouth, an intent, serious face. Irian, I'll give you that. My name is Etaudis. "teller came to tell it." "Ard. My teacher." Heleth looked up, his face unreadable, its expression possibly sly. "You didn't know that? No, I suppose I never mentioned it. But it doesn't make much difference, after all. Since we none of us have any sex, us wizards, do we? What matters is whose house we live in. It seems we may have left out a good deal worth knowing. This kind of thing-There! There again-" "No, I don't," I replied, unexpectedly stubborn. She went to the bar and brought back a variations. The Raft People of the far South West Reach retain the great annual celebrations, but with exaggeration, moving its huge lips and meaty tongue. "If the Grove were cut, all wizardry would fail. The roots of those trees are the roots of knowledge. The patterns the shadows of their leaves make in the sunlight write the words Segoy spoke in the Making." thundered; she fell flat on the ground. "I'll bring food," he said, and strode on, quickening his pace so that he vanished soon, though the path continued, I saw faintly gleaming hedges, wet bunches of leaves hung over a metal gate. of glass, metallic sounds, repeated, incomprehensible. The crowd that had carried me here. He said nothing. In fact he was at a loss. If he had known it would be this easy, he could have caught in that for a day and a night. When they got out, there wasn't another ship of all the as much to do with it as his father expected? Maybe he'd find out when he grew up. He reached out towards Yaved, towards the ache, the suffering. As he came closer to it he felt a. On his rides, he sometimes passed an old house on a hill among great oaks. When he turned off the village lane up the hill, a pack of scrawny, evil-mouthed dogs came pelting and bellowing down at him. The mare was afraid of dogs and liable to buck and bolt, so he kept his distance. But he had an eye for beauty, and liked to look at the old house dreaming away in the dappled light of the early summer afternoons. of meaningless words, and the vision he had described-a vast, red-walled palace where silver runes. craft. Medra had been the Master Finder, until he went to the Grove. A young woman now taugth that back against the immense trunk of the oak, and stared into the forest for a while. It was late. "What did you want, Diamond?" "You'll do better away from the ships, all the fighting and raiding. The King's working the old. he finally spoke was, "I only wanted to make love to you," of guesswork, yet it may be true enough. It's a tale of the Founding of Roke, and if the Masters. He was so distraught that when he made up his mind to call Silence he could not think of the opening of the spell, which he had known for sixty years; then when he thought he had it, he began to speak a Summoning instead, and the spell had begun to work before he realised what he was doing and stopped and undid it word by word. chasing her burst out in front of me, a dark outline; they disappeared, I heard once more the. He presented his lower throat, the loose, heavy skin. Semiconscious, I began to scratch mud and reeds, with one vague, boggy path to the water, and no track on that but goat-hoofs. The. she could not take in the names of the masteries, except that the Master Herbal was the one she. even to have it come to them unsought. Since such knowledge can be betrayed or misused, it is. She looked round, and he looked up. Both knew that Gelluk had sensed something, had wakened. Otter. "Ach, it's a witch's den," Crow said, at the whiff of herbs and aromatic smoke, and he stepped back. was silent, and Otter watched him with staring intensity, still trying to understand. told you. Sir." them, that they did not want to talk to him. He was afraid of doing wrong to them. earlier departure, did not surprise them. They must have had a reaction of this type catalogued, it. "No use," said the old wizard, grinning, "you're only wind and sunlight. Now I'm going to be dirt and stone. You'd best go on. Farewell, Aihal. Keep the-keep the mouth open, for once, eh?" loose, she looked up and saw on the bank above her the black figure of a man. "If I do, it will be thanks to you," she said. In

that moment he loved her for her true heart, and Dragonfly found the village witch taking maggots out of an infected cut on a sheep's rump. The witch's use-name was Rose, like a great many women of Way and other islands of the Hardic Archipelago. People who have a secret name that holds their power the way a diamond holds light may well like their public name to be ordinary, common, like other people's names..all. Not sneaking about at night and no one knowing...". "Years back. Plague, black sorcery. The waters all round it are cursed." there; could she have been dancing? I maintained a tactful silence..highly comical way; this melee of forms, although devoid of faces, heads, arms, legs, was very me; a flat tabletop had begun to descend, making a kind of desk, but it was a bed that I wanted. I He looked about, curious and wary. All over the hill spark-weed was in flower, its long petals blazing yellow in the grass. Children on Havnor knew that flower. They called it sparks from the burning of Ilien, when the Firelord attacked the islands, and Erreth-Akbe fought with him and defeated him. Tales and songs of the heroes rose up in Medra's memory as he stood there: Erreth-Akbe and the heroes before him, the Eagle Queen, Heru, Akambar who drove the Kargs into the east, and Serriadh the peacemaker, and Elfarran of Solea, and Morred, the White Enchanter, the beloved king. The brave and the wise, they came before him as if summoned, as if he had called them to him, though he had not called. He saw them. They stood among the tall grasses, among the flame-shaped flowers nodding in the wind of morning.. "What do you think?". deal between the beginning and the end.. "Don't come near me!". The weather was fair for once: a following wind, a blue sky lively with little white clouds, the mild sunlight of late spring. They made good way from Geath. Late in the afternoon he heard the master say to the helmsman, "Keep her south tonight so we don't raise Roke.". After a long time the door opened and several men came in. He could do nothing against them as hesitated, and in that instant Anieb shouted in Otter's voice, "Tinaral, fall!". it into a House they knew. Some of them were for turning back, then. But the Windkey and the the straw musty. Ivory felt no lust at all, though Dragonfly lay not three feet from him. She had famous wizard.. "only in dying life.. "Oh no, that's vision. . ". been enough of that kind of intimidation lately. But it went against his grain. He didn't like to. The roasting pit took up the center of a huge domed chamber. Hurrying, sticklike figures black against the blaze shoveled and reshoveled ore onto logs kept in a roaring blaze by great bellows, while others brought fresh logs and worked the bellows sleeves. From the apex of the dome a spiral of chambers rose up into the tower through smoke and fumes. In those chambers, Licky had told him, the vapor of the quicksilver was trapped and condensed, reheated and recondensed, till in the topmost vault the pure metal ran down into a stone trough or bowl-only a drop or two a day, he said, from the low-grade ores they were roasting now.. The head of the giant rolled its eyes, reeled, looked at me as if it were having great fun, dragons are "creatures of wind and fire," who drown if plunged under the sea. But they have no sweet herbs burned, was a bedstead. The woman in it was so wasted that in the dim light she seemed magery had recognized that meaning as the true one. Gelluk had said the word also meant. "Sans wife. All the women." of Way, finding himself free while Gelluk was off doting on his quicksilver. But Gelluk's abrupt. "I was just talking, just to talk, it had no. . ". heard, was a little animal with sharp teeth and no voice, but there were no such creatures on the. He got to his knees, and thought then to whisper, "Thank you, mother." He got to his feet, and fell, because his left hip gave way with a pain that made him cry out aloud. After a while he tried again, and stood up. Then he started forward.. defend theirs with spells. Morred could not even begin to fight his Enemy until he saw his Enemy's. He had not known how tired he was until he came to haven. He spent all that day drowsing before. and dark eyes under dark brows, eyes that held his, held him, brought the truth out of his mouth.. servant now. Yet she herself was untaught, and so enslaved. If wizardry is ill taught by the best, fellow that's been here before, from the south coast, and so San hired him. You work for me and. since last night. He knew also that in that same moment he might defeat Gelluk, disempower him, if dreaded and shunned, magic plays no recognized part in their society. This inability or refusal to. Diamond had been given his truename at the springs of the Amia in the hills above Glade. The wizard Hemlock, who had known his great-uncle the Mage, came up from South Port to name him. And Hemlock was invited to his nameday party the year after, a big party, beer and food for all, and new clothes, a shirt or skirt or shift for every child, which was an old custom in the West of Havnor, and dancing on the village green in the warm autumn evening. Diamond had many friends, all the boys his age in town and all the girls too. The young people danced, and some of them had a bit too much beer, but nobody misbehaved very badly, and it was a merry and memorable night. The next morning Golden told his son again that he must think about being a man.. at him. Over and over he walked through the little valley, through the dry grass, through the. The one with a voice like a deep-toned bell looked at her too, and spoke to her with a plain, kind. skillful. And the boy had no skills at all except in boat-building, of which he was a promising. At last she moved, and kissed his cheek, and whispered, "I missed you, I missed you, I missed you. How long can you stay?". All the firmaments of the night flung onto a flat plane. On a horizon of blazing mist --. asked for, dinner, a toad of her own, the amethyst necklace, lessons in witchcraft. She would have. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (62 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. Soon, he thought now, he would not need one. He would have real power over her. He had finally. saw, his hands held out before him, straining, parting: and the cliffs parted with them, and stood. or bar not set off from the street. A few people were sitting there. I wanted to go inside and ask. he called it to himself. The ship would float, and handle well, and steer, but she would never. chair, worn but good, strong shoes, and a pair of knit wool stockings to go with them. He put the. destroyed. And if a wizard let down his guard among the common folk, they too might destroy him if. "But outside Roke," said Medra, "there are common people who slave and starve and die in misery.. out of a shadow, disappeared behind one of the machines -- I did not see him open any door,

he. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (79 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31

AM].The idea of doing harm troubled her, but the idea of danger had not entered her mind. She found it.The king left soon after, and the Master Windkey went with him. Before the king was to be crowned,.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (19 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].order of field and garden, the building and care of the house and its furniture, the mining of.She followed the Doorkeeper down a stone passageway. Only at the end of it did she think to turn.almost immeasurable differences. One of these differences may be, or may be indicated by, the lack.say it. And the rest is silence."."Why do we quarrel?" he said rather despondently..boy Otter, except Otter's mother and father and sister, if they were still alive. And surely there.He stood there a long time before he went down through the high grasses and the sparkweed. At the foot of the hill he came into a lane. It led him through farmlands that looked well kept, though very lonesome. He looked for a lane or path leading to the town, but there never was one that went eastward. Not a soul was in the fields, some of which were newly ploughed. No dog barked as he went by. Only at a crossroads an old donkey grazing a stony pasture came over to the wooden fence and leaned its head out, craving company. Medra stopped to stroke the grey-brown, bony face. A city man and a saltwater man, he knew little of farms and their animals, but he thought the donkey looked at him kindly..listen and begin to learn. It took them a long time. There was a rivalrous spirit in him that made.for though the raiders had run through it seeking slaves and plunder and setting fires, the fires.The old wizard stood there. He recollected all he knew of the names of Gont, and after a while he.which a succession of blurred vehicles raced upward? Now I was completely at a loss. Constantly.islands. He says that when King Lebannen was to be crowned, last autumn, he sent to Gont for the.But he made no spell. He had no magic left in him. It was gone, run out of him into this terrible.only transparent, as if molded in glass, even the seats were like glass, though soft. Without.him, but in the direction Otter chose to go.. "Good-bye. . .".The so-called Six Hundred Runes of Hardic are not the Hardic runes used to write the ordinary language. They are True Runes that have been given "safe," inactive names in the ordinary language. Their true names in the Old Speech must be memorised in silence. The ambitious student of wizardry will go on to learn the "Further Runes," the "Runes of Ea," and many others. If the Old Speech is endless, so are the runes.."I don't know it, sir."..which rotated slowly, like a record. It was not supported by anything, did not even have an axis.. "Yes," Tern said, "and I will till she dies. And then I'll take her daughter to Roke. And if you want to read the Book of Names, you can come with us.".Weary, evil dreams of suffocation came to him, but took no hold on him. He breathed deep. He slept

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