

2 I THE EXAMINATION OF SOME MATERIALS SOLD AS INSECTICIDES AND FUNGICIDES

the butterfly fell to the ground, a fragment of brick..But her boat-cradle of willow wood, floating free, bore their child Serriadh to safety, wearing, however well sung, wrecks the tune it isn't part of. Women teach women. Witches learn their craft. let out again last year, as you may recall." The wind had come up again. They were both shivering, their teeth chattering. They stood face to face in the black lane, hardly able to see where the other was. Dragonfly put out her groping hand and met the witch's hand. They put their arms round each other in a fierce, long embrace. Then they hurried on, the witch to her hut near the village, the heiress of Iria up the hill to her ruinous house, where all the dogs, who had let her go without much fuss, received her back with a clamour and racket of barking that woke everybody for a half-mile round except the Master, sodden drunk by his cold hearth..He had a way with her cows that was wonderful. When he was there and she needed a hand, he took." He was only a child, and the wizards of that household can't have been wise men, for they used little wisdom or gentleness with him. Maybe they were afraid of him. They bound his hands and gagged his mouth to keep him from making spells. They locked him in a cellar room, a room of stone, until they thought him tamed. Then they sent him away to live at the stables of the great farm, for he had a hand with animals, and was quieter when he was with the horses. But he quarreled with a stable boy, and turned the poor lad into a lump of dung. When the wizards had got the stable boy back into his own shape, they tied up the child again, and gagged his mouth, and put him on a ship for Roke. They thought maybe the Masters there could tame him." "Witchery," they said, "sacrilege, defilement." spray like a fountain blown by the wind. The gash in the earth grew deeper, revealing the ledge of. lifetime of keen observation into the fourteen years that were all she was going to have for it.. "It is the lode," the young man said.. thousand years ago.. She looked up at him, her sharp, strong face softened by the shadowy lantern-light. "If it was only to make love you brought me here, Ivory," she said, "we can do that. If you still want to." would be sure to reach Ark before the Long Dance.. The wind blew, the long grass nodded in the wind. Summer was getting on and the grass was dry now.. title or court privilege in the days of the kings, through all the dark years after Maharion fell. The Patterner never came to her much before noon, so she had the mornings free. She was used to solitude, but still she missed Rose and Daisy and Coney, and the chickens and the cows and ewes, and the rowdy, foolish dogs, and all the work she did at home trying to keep Old Iria together and put food on the table. So she worked away unhurriedly every morning till she saw the mage come out from the trees with his sunlight-coloured hair shining in the sunlight.. The name and office of archmage were invented by Halkel, and the Archmage of Roke was a tenth Master, never counted among the Nine. A vital ethical and intellectual force, the archmage also exerted considerable political power. On the whole this power was used benevolently. Maintaining Roke as a strong centralising, normalising, pacific element in Archipelagan society, the archmages sent out sorcerers and wizards trained to understand the ethical practice of magic and to protect communities from drought, plague, invaders, dragons, and the unscrupulous use of their art.. the hip with his huge head, he rubbed against me, purring; I felt an idiotic tickling in my chest. . . The Changer stood silent, and then he said quietly, with respect, "My friend, what is it you think." "Wait," I said. "Do you have anything to drink?" And beyond that, nothing. There had been illusions, little spells, pebbles that turned to. plans of training him in the business, and having him help in expanding the carting route to a. everything. . . words and they said theirs, but none of them were the right words.. and lodging, for a wizard of Roke should not take advantage of people's willingness to give him." "I think I do." the lawn. It knew nothing about a hotel but told me how I could get to the nearest escalator. I. Since the name of the person is the person, in the most literal and absolute sense, anyone who knows it has real power, power of life and death, over the person. Often a true name is never known to anybody but the giver and to the owner, who both keep it secret all their life. The power to give the true name and the imperative to keep it secret are one. True names have been betrayed, but never by the name giver.. "Ach, it's a witch's den," Crow said, at the whiff of herbs and aromatic smoke, and he stepped." The Summoner was among us when we stood on Roke Knoll and saw the Archmage kneel to

King. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (22 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. It is often a matter of considerable importance that the words of these lore-books not be spoken aloud.. indignant, speaking more bluntly even than usual.. eyes. Leaving his cell he had felt the spellbonds loosen and fall away, but there were other. he called it to himself. The ship would float, and handle well, and steer, but she would never. of the Dragonlords, as the tale goes on, the names and exploits of these wizards begin to eclipse. her free. I know nothing. If you know how to be free, I beg you, teach me!" to her, and his presence was as easy as that of the trees and the rare birds and four-legged. Old Speech. Hardic practitioners of the art magic learn it from their teachers. Sorcerers and. and had not recognized it, back then, before the earthquake that had sunk a half mile of the coast. "It's not just beneath them --". "She took my cup away," the Master of Iria said to the stranger, whining like a puppy, while his. crowd, Abs offered me his hand with an understanding smile: "Easy, now. . .". possibility. . . the fact that there is one who. . . heard of the isle or seen it on a chart? It might be accursed and deserted as they said, but. since the murrain.. with her when he went on. There was a terrible shortage of coppers in her household these days.. was gone, and there was nothing there but the woman standing on the hill path and the tall man. "Do you trust me, Dragonfly?" what had become of their power. They didn't know.. routing out his heavy cloak, setting water to boil on the small fire he had lighted earlier, he. To the sisters and all these villagers, Mount Onn was the world, and the shores of Havnor were the. He smiled. Gift had never seen him smile.. courteously by their titles.. "She took my cup away," the Master of Iria said to the stranger, whining like a puppy, while his dogs yammered around him. "She broke

it." file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (18 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].dragons will threaten the Inmost Sea. There will be order, safety, and peace." "Got in?" .were gossamer to him, transparent. Nothing blurred his eyes or challenged his will as he flew over."I don't know," Dragonfly said. "To hear about the Great House is wonderful, but I thought the."I didn't understand," Irioth said, "about the others. That they are other. We are all other. We must be. I was wrong." .opened, I began walking.. "Do what?" .across her half-filled glass, until the end of the golden chain around her fingers dipped into the. students, speaking little. The Summoner would send gifted students to him, but many of the boys. And he was easy, he was still, he held fast, rock in rock and earth in earth in the fiery dark of. From time to time in the years since then, Dulse remembered how he hadn't lost his temper when. "I have work here," he said.. "I tell you, Irian, he cannot come here, he cannot harm you here." .Kings, lords, and Islemen charged with defending the islands of the Archipelago came to rely. All we know of ancient times in Earthsea is to be found in poems and songs, passed down orally for. You must make your choice alone, as a man. Do you understand that?" Golden was earnest, seeing his. He did as he often did, made a little design out of whatever lay to hand: on the bit of sand on the riverbank in front of him he set a leaf-stem, a grassblade, and several pebbles. He studied them and rearranged them. "Now I must speak of harm," he said.. Next morning he picked a sprig of herb from the kitchen-garden of the inn and spelled it into the semblance of a fine staff, coppershod and his own height exactly. "What is the wood?" Dragonfly asked, fascinated, when she saw it, and when he answered with a laugh, "Rosemary," she laughed too.. When (in the year 440, by Hardic count) Erreth-Akbe came to make peace between the Archipelago and. While Morred sought to free his people from these spells and to confront his enemy, Elfarran. They cursed and sneered, but believed him. He had no idea if what he said was true. It had seemed. Her eyes were wild.. By that time there were many people of the Hand who knew what was afoot on Roke. Young people came. How far does the forest go?. down into the dark, his scarlet cloak billowing up, the werelight round him like a falling star.. After a while he said, "I could chase an etymology on the brink of doom ... But I think, Azver, that that's where we are. We won't defeat him." "Speak when I let you," the wizard said. "Where is the man?" .and warm in the late dusk, only the largest stars burning through a milky overcast. She slipped. "Get out!" she shouted. "Get away, you traitor, you foul lecher, or I'll cut the liver out of you!" She sprang up the bank, pulling herself up by the tough bunchgrass, and scrambled to her feet. No one was there. She stood afire, shaking with rage. She leapt back down the bank, found her clothes, and pulled them on, still swearing - "You coward wizard! You traitorous son of a bitch!" .Anieb kept a better pace than seemed possible in a woman so famished and destroyed, walking almost naked in the chill of the rain. All her will was aimed on walking forward; she had nothing else in her mind, not him, not anything. But she was there bodily with him, and he felt her presence as keenly and strangely as when she had come to his summoning. The rain ran down her naked head and body. He made her stop to put on his shirt. He was ashamed of it, for it was filthy, he having worn it all these weeks. She let him pull it over her head and then walked right on. She could not go quickly, but she went steadily, her eyes fixed on the faint cart track they followed, till the night came early under the rain clouds, and they could not see where to set their feet.. It was hard work out in the pastures. "Who doesn't do hard work?" Emer had asked, showing her. and banish darkness from the islands forever. The Firelord took dragon form to fight Erreth-Akbe., Silence shook his head.. into the street. That is, I thought it was a street, but the darkness above us was every now and. And it was in these discussions that the school on Roke began.. Grove. Enough to keep even you from being restless. Why north?" .far end of the old workings. There he nodded downward and stamped his foot.. In there he knew he should hurry, that the bones of the earth ached to move, and that he must become them to guide them, but he could not hurry. There was on him the bewilderment of any transformation. He had in his day been fox, and bull, and dragonfly, and knew what it was to change being. But this was different, this slow enlargement. I am vastening, he thought.. "but a crafty man. Well, you're not the first." .He stepped down from the doorstep onto the dirt so that he could feel the ground with the nerves of his soles, but the mud slimed and fouled any messages the dirt had for him. He set the eggs down on the doorstep, sat down beside them, cleaned his feet with rainwater from the pot by the step, wiped them dry with the rag that hung on the handle of the pot, picked up the eggs, stood up slowly, and went into his house.. about dragons. You know there's been talk of them flying over the Inmost Sea as far east as Gont.. "Say it, then." .Otter knew that a moment was coming when he might get free of Gelluk: of that he had been sure. must go she would go. She did not understand danger. She had no wisdom but her innocence, no amour. "I talked to him last night," Golden said. "He said to me that there are certain natural gifts which it's not only difficult but actually wrong, harmful, to suppress." .little and opened.. He saw her smile, but she was also hesitant, and after a while she said, "Well, you're welcome., Otter, sitting by the fire shelling walnuts, held still. Mead thanked the messenger and brought. the Kargish forces, who had landed in "a thousand ships" on Waymarsh and were swarming across the. Growing old, Elehal wearied of the passions and questions of the school and was drawn more and more to the trees, where she went alone, as far as the mind can go. Medra walked there too, but not so far as she, for he was lame.. "Are you hurt too?" .mere finder who went about with midwives and the like. He could not bring himself to sneak and. I had to smile.. thrown away. Like slaves' lives. Nobody can be free alone. Not even a mage. All of them working. to do, to learn? What is she, that you ask this for her?" .runes. To write in the True Runes, as to speak the Old Speech, is to guarantee the truth of what. entertainers and musicians it was their living, and though uninvited they were welcomed. A tale-. to other men than women and children are. We might have fifty witches here and they'll pay little. "Every spell depends on every other spell," said Highdrake. "Every motion of a single leaf moves. Her eyes were shining and attentive.. fluff that became more and more transparent as it descended. Her slim, lovely belly was like a. The witch listened, unable to resist the lure of secrets revealed and the contagion of passionate desire.. moved you to break it and let her come in." "No," he said, taking no

offense, perhaps not understanding, "Of course it wasn't. I beg your." "I didn't mean to offend you. It's just that, you see, if it is known that no one can -- you. Doorkeeper, you know I'd never question your judgment, but the Rule is clear. I have to ask what. The leaves of the trees spoke, she said, and the shadows could be read. "I am learning to read them," she said.. mines at Samory, round the mountain. There you'd be out of his way. Work for him you must, if you. order against the forces of ruin? Will it be you, of all men, who breaks the pattern?" "Our problem is with men," Veil said, "if you'll forgive me, dear brother. Men are of more account. They greeted him, and Azver took the word - "Come into the Grove, Master Windkey," he said, "and we will wait there for the others of the Nine." "Thought you might. As for King Losen," Hound said, "who knows." He sniffed and sighed. "If I was him I'd retire" he said. "I think I'll do that myself." the Changer spoke against it at first, and then agreed.. They walked a half-mile or so. The Knoll rose up full in the western sun on their right. Behind. "The true art prevails over the false. The pattern will hold," Ember said, frowning. She reached out the poker to gather together her namesakes in the hearth, and with a whack knocked the heap into a blaze. "That I know. But our lives are short, and the patterns very long. If only Roke was now what it once was- if we had more people of the true art gathered here, teaching and learning as well as preserving-". Dragonfly waited. "It's the power, like I said. It comes just so." Rose stopped her spinning and. "I'd say," she said, her voice thin and reedy, speaking to the curer, "that if Alder's beeves stay. better! But drink your soup first, and let me sit down to hear..." I went outside. It was indeed a park. The trees rustled incessantly, invisible in the gloom. I. halfway out the door. I went to put my foot on a step, but there was no step. Between the metal

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