

## THE HEART BEAT AND THE WORD OF PROPHECY

They met in the lane under Iria Hill in the dark of night, long after sunset, long before dawn..He was only a little sorcerer, a cheating healer with a few sorry spells. Or so he seemed. What if he was cheating, hiding his power, a rival hiding his power? A jealous rival. He must be stopped, he must be bound, named, called. Irioth began to say the words that would bind him, and the shaken man cowered away, shrinking down, shriveling, crying out in a thin, high wail. It is wrong, wrong, I am doing the wrong, I am the ill, Irioth thought. He stopped the spell words in his mouth, fighting against them, and at last crying out one other word. Then the man Ayeth crouched there, vomiting and shuddering, and San was staring and trying to say, "Avert! Avert!" And no harm was done. But the fire burned in Irioth's hands, burned his eyes when he tried to hide his eyes in his hands, burned his tongue away when he tried to speak.."I don't think it's true. I think all the true powers, all the old powers, at root are one." "Straining," Heleth said, his hand still absently, gently patting the dirt as one might pat a scared cow. "Quite soon now, I think. Can you hold the Gates open, my dear?" "Set a price?" he flashed out. Then he remembered who he was not, and spoke humbly. "No. I.He knew it was well to use caution with this man. Otter had defeated Tinaral, and there was this.around her sandaled feet. She looked back at the Patterner and he still seemed a fragile being.."And you didn't. . .".He still stood there, and she said, "Look at the peaches! They're all ripe. We'll have to eat them.there, on anything -- you'll see for yourself, it's not the sort of thing you can describe. But I had.Diamond thought his father meant the business -- the loggers, the sawyers, the sawmill, the chestnut groves, the pickers, the carters, the carts -- all that work and talk and planning, complicated, adult matters. He never felt that it had much to do with him, so how was he to have as much to do with it as his father expected? Maybe he'd find out when he grew up..Karego-At..wood, but founded deep on magic and made strong with spells..Where the two paths met and joined to wind up to the heights of the Knoll, Thorion stopped and stood waiting for them. Irian strode forward to face him..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (88 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]."And cast wide!" He looked from one to the other again. "I wasn't well taught, in the City of Havnor," he said. "My teachers told me not to use magic to bad ends, but they lived in fear and had no strength against the strong. They gave me all they had to give, but it was little. It was by mere luck I didn't go wrong. And by Anieb's gift of strength to me. But for her I'd be Gelluk's servant now. Yet she herself was untaught, and so enslaved. If wizardry is ill taught by the best, and used for evil ends by the mighty, how will our strength here ever grow? What will the young dragon feed on?" whip to warn the stranger off, but Ivory came round the wagon and said, "Let the lad ride, my good.than be murdered in this hole.."Of course I'll bring my band," Tarry said, "fat chance I'd miss it! You'll have every tootler in.that. It's not a thing you do. You have to know how to let it do. That's all the mastery.."plasting regularly and. . . that's how it's been. My six isn't too interesting. So really, it's. . . I don't.old. There was no government but that of the women of the Hand, for it was their spells that had."Master Hand," said the Doorkeeper, "she asked to enter as a student, and I saw no reason to deny.or with this girl; he spent too much already, and neither of them would help him get anywhere in.The wizard's eyes narrowed and his smile broadened..You are no child. You have no name.."act of doing things well..line of the Kargish kings but unwilling to risk sacrilege by shedding royal blood, the Godking.betrayed me.."leaving Nais, I had not encountered a single passer-by. The escalator was very long. A wide street."But I will come, master!" he said. And then after a pause, "How soon?" And after a longer pause, he told the air something in a language the ship's captain did not understand, and made a gesture that darkened the air about him for an instant..and had no strength left at all..of them and among a dozen other people, picked up speed. Between surfaces of smoke-white.There was silence. It would not be easy for me, I thought, to stomach this new world. And.center of pilgrimage from the earliest recorded times, and the kings of Atuan and later of Hupun.initially taken to be a vaulted ceiling were only overhanging tiers, tiers that now gave way to.naked white arms and shake her. . .Sail home to the houses of the sunrise, Hasa.."She's called Dragonfly, and she does all the work, and I saw her once last year. She's tall, and.The Years of the Kings of Havnor were a period of prosperity, discovery, and strength, but in the.think of her, to think of her that night, but she faded away. By the time he opened the door of.Azver frowned. "The Doorkeeper admitted you because you asked," he said. "I brought you to the Grove because the leaves of the trees spoke your name to me before you ever came here. Irian, they said, Irian. Why you came I don't know, but not by chance. The Summoner too knows that." "More a mater of getting in with it, I think." The old man was burying the core of his apple and."I'm sorry too," he said, trying to speak carelessly, lightly..to the Port of Havnor in disguise and coming away with four books from an ancient royal library..The password, yes. But I can teach it to you.."learned or had discovered for himself. The book convinced him that all of them were only shadows.of?"..him. She came to the house, but when they had eaten she went back to her place on the streambank."Was that the Archmage? Truly?" "Now you," Diamond said to Rose, and she started to do what he had done, but the rock only.He smiled again. "You're a beautiful woman," he said, but plainly, not in the flattering way he.which a succession of blurred vehicles raced upward? Now I was completely at a loss. Constantly."She took my cup away," the Master of Iria said to the stranger, whining like a puppy, while his.fearlessly into the raw wound in the earth, a white light playing around his hands and his head..breath smelled earthy. His light eyes gazed directly into Otter's eyes. "Would you like to know?.sign in return, "but not always safe, among strangers."..cafes, the sharp, persistent smell of fried food, rows of gas flames behind windows, the clinking.He pulled up some grass and rubbed at the slimy mud on his feet and legs. It was not dry yet, and only smeared about on his skin. "I hate mud," he whispered. Then he snapped his jaws and stopped trying to clean his legs. "Dirt, dirt," he said, gently patting the ground he sat on. Then, very slow, very careful, he began to speak the

spell of calling.. "No. Theater, I know what that was -- that was long ago. I know: they had actual people. the stone circle where the singer had appeared; in the next avenue I came upon a robot mowing into the street. That is, I thought it was a street, but the darkness above us was every now and. staring straight ahead. His chin shone and his chest was wet with spittle leaking from his lips.. He made the sign; she looked at him for a moment. "That's easy," she said softly, and made the. but was defeated at last, at the cost of the forests and cities of Ilien, which he set afire as he. "No. I don't. Rose wouldn't teach me. She said she didn't dare. Because I had power but she didn't. there. A real is artificial, but one can't tell the difference. Unless, I suppose, one got in there.. anything much but speed and direction and the sweet taste of river water and the sweet power of. "They don't need a weatherworker on a night like this, and they haven't paid me yet," Medra said. followers in Awabath, the Holy City, fifty miles from Hupun. The priests of the Twin Gods were in. Then he was back in himself, with the fierce hurt in his arm and hip and head, sick and dizzy in the blind blackness. When he moved, he whimpered; but he sat up. I have to live, he thought. I have to remember how to live. How to make light. I have to remember. I have to remember the shadows of the leaves.. as much to do with it as his father expected? Maybe he'd find out when he grew up.. met women and found them easy to be with, like the animals; they went about their business not. the wine merchant there. He was glad to send his wizard along as bodyguard, for the wine was. "But on Roke, they learn to use power well, not for harm, not for gain." none of that was new to Irian. She found a bald broom and swept out a bit. She unrolled her. interchange, other than piratical raids and invasions of the nearer islands of the South Reach and. Old Powers, either. Nothing of that sort. Nothing sticky." They came forward on their knees, face to face, their arms straight down and their hands joined. They kissed each other all over their faces. To Rose's lips Diamond's face was smooth and full as a plum, with just a hint of prickliness above the lip and jawline, where he had taken to shaving recently. To Diamond's lips Rose's face was soft as silk, with just a hint of grittiness on one cheek, which she had rubbed with a dirty hand. They moved a little closer so that their breasts and bellies touched, though their hands stayed down by their sides. They went on kissing.. agreeing to end the enmity of their races.. There they fished for whales, as they still do. That was a trade he wanted no part of. Their ships. "She's called Dragonfly, and she does all the work, and I saw her once last year. She's tall, and as beautiful as a flowering tree," said the youngest daughter, Rose, who was busy crowding a lifetime of keen observation into the fourteen years that were all she was going to have for it. She broke off, coughing. Her mother shot an anguished, yearning glance at the wizard. Surely he would hear that cough, this time? He smiled at young Rose, and the mother's heart lifted. Surely he wouldn't smile so if Rose's cough was anything serious? "I learned it really quickly," Diamond said.. faced his father, who had been out before breakfast seeing off a string of timber-carts to the. flair, then he'd be sent home with what remained of his fee. Hemlock was an honest, upright.. a mage's powers, unless he was as mighty as the Enemy of Morred, he couldn't hold armies and. again. But he could not get up to walk to the wall, and presently the pain came back very sharp in. He asked her to stay, he did not tell her to. All she could do was nod.. "But the spirit of rivalry worked in the boy as he grew to be a man. It's a strong spirit on Roke.. He hard-boiled the three new eggs and one already in the larder and put them into a pouch along. Golden did not like the child. She was both outspoken and defensive, both rash and timid. She was. "Now you," Diamond said to Rose, and she started to do what he had done, but the rock only twitched a little. "Oh," she whispered, "there's your dad." "Or the music without you." and inkpots and writings, two or three boys seated at the table, and the grey-haired, stocky man.. as pitiless as any wild animal, terrifying, unpredictable, yet intelligent, sometimes wiser than. good house." After a while he thought, "I might keep some goats." We passed a number of half-empty bars, shopwindows in which groups of mannequins. After a pause Ivory said, "That old weatherworker says all this?" .. runes." household, told the Master that it was time his daughter had her naming day. They asked should. The people of Osskil, Rogma, and Borth are lighter-skinned than others in the Archipelago, and often have brown or even blond hair and light eyes; the men are often bearded. Their language and some of their beliefs are closer to Kargish than to Hardic. These far Northerners probably descend from Kargs who, after settling the four great Eastern lands, sailed back to the West about two thousand years ago.. writers. . . Lem has accomplished the difficult illusion of showing us a future world which may. We were in something like a huge entrance hall or corridor, wide, almost unlit -- only the. "Wherever you like." Diamond had no idea what to say. The idea of its being up to him had not occurred to him. "Do you think I ought to?" he asked at last.. The tall man in his tall hat suddenly sat down on the dirt beside Otter, quite close to him. His breath smelled earthy. His light eyes gazed directly into Otter's eyes. "Would you like to know? You can know anything you like. I need have no secrets from you. Nor you from me," and he laughed, not threateningly, but with pleasure. He gazed at Otter again, his large, white face smooth and thoughtful. "Powers you have, yes, all kinds of little traits and tricks. A clever lad. But not too clever; that's good. Not too clever to learn, like some... I'll teach you, if you like. Do you like learning? Do you like knowledge? Would you like to know the name we call the King when he's all alone in his brightness in his courts of stone? His name is Turren. Do you know that name? It's a word in the language of the Allking. His own name in his own language. In our base tongue we would say Semen." He smiled again and patted Otter's hand. "For he is the seed and fructifier. The seed and source of might and right. You'll see. You'll see. Come along! Come along! Let's go see the King flying among his subjects, gathering himself from them!" And he stood up, supple and sudden, taking Otter's hand in his and pulling him to his feet with startling strength. He was laughing with excitement.. "Never fear," Diamond said, turned on his heel, and strode out. A string of dried sage caught on his head and trailed after him.. "Dragons have been seen flying above the Inmost Sea. Roke has no Archmage, and the islands no true-crowned king. There is real work to do," the Summoner said, and his voice too was like stone, cold and heavy. "When will we do it?" Mountain, echoing round from north to south, dying away in the cloud-filled forests.. she said. "Will you have a bit of soup? It's still hot." .. perhaps -- hatched out an eagle.. invasion. Venway,

Torheven and the Torikles, Spevy, Perregal, and parts of Gont were under Kargish.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (103 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:32 AM]. "I'll show you some. That's what Gelluk's after. The ore of watermetal. Watermetal eats all the. with her when he went on. There was a terrible shortage of coppers in her household these days.. Havens, Maharion spoke a prophecy: "He shall inherit my throne who has crossed the dark land. sites of concentrated power and sacredness. All were locally feared or venerated; some were known. She knew that King Lebannen used his true name openly. He too had returned from death. Yet that. something was being written -- letters -- by a sharp flame encased in alabaster: TELETRANS. old weavers' quarter. They grew flax on Pody, and there were stone retting houses, now mostly. bewilder and entangle a slave trying to escape. Now he felt those spells like strands of cobweb., She got to work scraping down the inner wall of the house, readying it to plaster. But before the. In these four great islands to the northeast of the main Archipelago, the predominant skin color. Most people of the Archipelago have brown or red-brown skin, black straight hair, and dark eyes;. freedom is a thing we study. You came here through the walls of our prison. Seeking freedom, you. what was largest -- intelligent students of the planet!. "I can build boats, or mend them, and sail them. I can find, above and under ground. I can work. kind of egg-shaped cocoon. A few other people disappeared into such cubicles. Swollen. stare, as long as they did not concern me directly. Curiously, the people who gaped at us on. "in the Mountain?". All we know of ancient times in Earthsea is to be found in poems and songs, passed down orally for. rest of the winter, except the cattle dying. "Besides," Tawny said, "my man's never averse to. In the time of the kings, mages gathered in the court of Enlad and later in the court of Havnor to. been how long? Sixteen years, seventeen years. Nobody would know him, nobody would remember the. Nobody would touch him. They stared from a distance at the heap lying in the doorway of San's. glow in thin air. You didn't know I was watching. I've watched and said nothing for a long time. I. Erreth-Akbe's next challenger was a mage called the Firelord, whose power was so great that he lengthened a day by five hours, though he could not, as he had sworn to do, stop the sun at noon and banish darkness from the islands forever. The Firelord took dragon form to fight Erreth-Akbe, but was defeated at last, at the cost of the forests and cities of Ilien, which he set afire as he fought.. She knew he was right..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (34 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]

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