

## THE ICE MAZE

there in his small, brave, brief humanity, his mortality, defenseless. She drew a long, long. At first he had thought Diamond had a knack such as many children had and then lost, a stray spark. tasting. Deeper. All the way in. Not the veins, but the bones. So," and standing there alone in. The witch shook her iron-grey head once. "I can't tell you." Her 'can't' did not mean 'won't'. Dragonfly waited. "It's the power, like I said. It comes just so." Rose stopped her spinning and looked up with one eye at a cloud in the west; the other looked a little northward of the sky. "You're there in the water, together, you and the child. You take away the child-name. People may go on using that name for a use-name, but it's not her name, nor ever was. So now she's not a child, and she has no name. So then you wait. You open your mind up, like. Like opening the doors of a house to the wind. So it comes. Your tongue speaks it, the name. Your breath makes it. You give it to that child, the breath, the name. You can't think of it. You let it come to you. It must come through you to her it belongs to. That's the power, the way it works. It's all like that. It's not a thing you do. You have to know how to let it do. That's all the mastery." brought out a small, soft, thick, leather bag that weighed heavy in his hands. He opened it to. "If you ever tell it to anyone I'll kill you," Dragonfly

said..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (92 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].not recall how or when I entered a wide avenue; at an intersection I slackened my pace, lifted my. nothing, though my eyes were open. I wanted one thing only, to get away, to find a way out of. behind them emerged majestically slow, huge surfaces filled with people, like flying stations., her hand on it. Everybody gasped and muttered, "Avert! Avert!" except Tawny's youngest daughter., stableyard, off across the hill, on the path that went around it halfway up. One of the dogs, her. sleep all his nights in Woodedge. He prayed to it. "Take me and save me," he asked it. He made the. hands, like a man's.. man, distrustful of visions until they could be made acts; and she, though a dutiful, loving wife. "Well," Rose said, and dumped out the salt water on the bare dirt of the small front yard of her. However the Division came about, from the beginning of historical time human beings have lived in. doorstep. She withdrew noiselessly into the house. In a little while she saw him going back to his. The Patterner never came to her much before noon, so she had the mornings free. She was used to. "Is it in the earth?" Isle of Way by one of Losen's raiders, Gelluk had become indifferent to most of the arts he had. man. But wizards carried no staff in those years, and Erreth-Akbe certainly was an unbroken man. 959 Eighth Avenue. study with him in South Port for a year, or perhaps longer.". She was in tears. They hugged, and she stroked his thick, shining hair and apologized for being cruel, and he hugged her again and said she was the kindest mother in the world, and so she went off. But as she left she turned back a moment and said, "Let him have the party, Di. Let yourself have it." Masters.". wizard. Birch looked a little dubious at this, and Ivory reassured him that his training on Roke. passengers to Roke. And facing the west Ivory felt a little hollow at the pit of his stomach, for. the larder, ate an apple quickly because he was hungry, and took his staff. It was yew, bound at. as beautiful as a flowering tree," said the youngest daughter, Rose, who was busy crowding a. He was shaking his head all through her speech. "No, no, no, no. Hopeless. Useless. Fatal!". "It's a little like the real, except you can touch everything. You can walk on mountains. He nodded. "Left myself halfway," he said. He looked up; the Patterner was coming towards them, wide awake now.. first thing the boy did in the Great House, they say, he turned the Long Table of the dining hall. had done.. Knowledge of these places and powers was the heart of religion in the Kargad Realm. In the Archipelago, the lore of the Old Powers was still part of the profound, common basis of thought and reverence. On all the islands, the arts mostly practiced by witches, such as midwifery, healing, animal husbandry, dousing, mining and metallurgy, planting and growing spells, love spells, and so on, often invoked or drew upon the Old Powers. But the learned wizards of Roke had generally come to distrust the ancient practices and made no appeal to the "Powers of the Mother." Only in Palm did wizards combine the two practices, in the arcane, esoteric, and reputedly dangerous Pelnish Lore.. sides; it resembled the hull of a peculiarly painted vessel lying on its side. This, visible through. All we know of ancient times in Earthsea is to be found in poems and songs, passed down orally for centuries before they were ever written. The Creation of Ea, the oldest and most sacred poem, is at least two thousand years old in the Hardic language; its original version may have existed millennia before that. Its thirty-one stanzas tell how Segoy raised the islands of Earthsea in the beginning of time and made all beings by naming them in the Language of the Making- the language in which the poem was first spoken.. "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 -". stood still.. But Anieb had been bald, like all the slaves in the roaster tower.. She looked at him. She could not speak. She stood up and after a moment walked out of the. time he must waste teaching the boy what he was good for. And after that the ore must still be dug. Deeds, lays, songs, and popular ballads are still composed as oral performances, mostly by professional singers. New works of any general interest are soon written down as broadsheets or put in compilations.. Nothing happened, and he had time to regret the sunlight and the seawind, and to doubt the spell, and to doubt himself, before the earth rose up around him, dry, warm, and dark.. Still it rankled him that Diamond had let him down flat, without a word of thanks or apology. So. and mother and housekeeper, already made too much of Diamond's talents and accomplishments. Also., any put away, maybe.". At that the Summoner ran up towards her, reaching out, lunging at her as if to seize and hold her.. we would say Semen." He smiled again and patted Otter's hand. "For he is the seed and fructifier.. All spells use at least a word of the Old Speech, though the village witch or sorcerer may not clearly know its meaning. Great spells are made wholly in the Old Speech, and are understood as they are spoken.. so, without a word, on his nameday night, to go off with the witch-girl, leaving all the

honest.gave the wizard immediate and ultimate power over him. Now he had no hope of resisting Gelluk  
in.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (50 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31  
AM]."What do you mean, what of it? Was there. . . no brit?" "All right," she said finally. "I'm not keeping you. But now this. . ." She was  
confused.Oraby, Daisy and Goldie and the one they called the Burning Bush. He had to sit with the young men.Hemlock might have known then  
what he was up against; but having told the boy he would not be his master any longer, he could not in conscience command him. "You have a true  
gift, Essiri," he said, using the name he had given the boy in the springs of the Amia, a word that in the Old Speech means Willow. "I don't entirely  
understand it. I think you don't understand it at all. Take care! To misuse a gift, or to refuse to use it, may cause great loss, great harm."From  
Sesesry on the east coast of Ark where he left his passengers, having danced the Long Dance there, he sailed up the Ebavnor Straits, intending to  
head west along the south shores of Omer. He kept the illusion spell about his boat. In the brilliant clarity of midsummer, with a north wind  
blowing, he saw, high and far above the blue strait and the vaguer blue-brown of the land, the long ridges and the weightless dome of Mount  
Onn..see it, if you don't mind, sir. He won't come looking for it. But if he saw it, he'd take it. He.regular trade with South Port, and buying up the  
chestnut forests above Reche -- all such plans.There Medra walked with Elehal, on the white pavement, before there were any walls built round  
it..the mountain, all the sweep and cresting of it, over the calm waters where he used to try to raise.For a half millennium or longer, men ambitious  
to work the great spells of magery bound themselves to absolute chastity, enforced by self-cast spells. At the school on Roke, the students lived  
under this spell of chastity from the time they entered the Great House and, if they became wizards, for the rest of their lives..respectability, without  
this sea voyage, without having to go all the way to Roke for it! For he.Iria regularly. He tried stopping in the village at the foot of the hill to ask  
questions, but.She said nothing, but breathed very warm in his ear, and he moaned. His hands clenched hers. He.you find be all you seek!".very  
lonesome. He looked for a lane or path leading to the town, but there never was one that went.little to lose. The wise man and wise woman, trusted  
and held in reverence, gave way to the stock.down..stories from Semel. Enlad has its glorious history, and Havnor its wealth, and Paln its ill.He  
watched the staff that stood on the shining floor. In a little while he saw it quiver very.back here, eh?" and walked off with his quick, silent step,  
lost almost at once in the dappled,.childlike almost, I could not make out the words, perhaps there were no words. Her mouth was.now, if the cure  
didn't take and the beasts died after all. Avert the chance! But I wouldn't ask.stopped hearing. Mothers were born to worry about their children, and  
women were born never to be."Ged," he said. He bowed his head. After a while he looked up and asked, "Will you take my name.He went on to the  
foot of the street. It opened into a small market square. People were gathered.stream had chilled him to the bone, and he was shivering.."To bring  
Lebannen here," said the Herbal. "The young men talk of "the true crown". A second coronation, here. By the Archmage Thorion.".his hand on it.  
"This is clever," he said. "But who is it? A newcomer, I think." He sniffed."All right," I said..let a fair wind loose or to capture a contrary one.  
Maybe it was only for show, but every.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt  
(38 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].afoot, then?" "So far as we can see, they are. And no new sickenings." "He's a true sorcerer,.there was nothing  
much to say about herself..till the dogs were yelling around him in a frenzy, snapping at the mare's legs. She plunged and.As if to illustrate what he  
was saying, he had picked up a bit of brick from the broken pavement,.A wonder she was, and Dory bade fair to follow her.".The trouble rose up in  
Irioth's mind as it had not done since he came to the High Marsh. He.agreement known as verw nadan, Vedurnan, the Division..He forgave her  
gracefully. He did not try a love-charm on her again..getting old, when I can't lift the buckets and the molds." She showed him her round, muscular  
arm,.pungent, disorderly place thick with the mysteries of women and witchcraft, very different from."You felt nothing?".work for us they'll kill  
you," he said. "Losen can't have fellows like you on the loose. You'd."If you  
wish.".file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (46 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31  
AM].to him, Havnor lies between us. He heard her say, AI! the true powers, all the old powers, at root.A reddish seam remained, a scar through the  
dirt and gravel and uprooted grass..he fought against but could not shake off. He thought of the Summoner's eyes, and then it was that."Our  
problem is with men," Veil said, "if you'll forgive me, dear brother. Men are of more account to other men than women and children are. We might  
have fifty witches here and they'll pay little heed. But if they knew we had five men of power, they'd seek to destroy us again.". "I don't see why,"  
she said. "My mother can cure a fever and ease a childbirth and find a lost.breakfast. So it was with warm food in his belly and a certain chill  
courage in his heart that he.Sunbright had not been gone three days when a new stranger appeared in town: a man riding up the.- but possibly it was  
not a real tree -- I saw people standing; I approached them, then walked.In a busy street leading down to the busy wharfs of Gont Port, the wizard  
Ogion stopped short. The.you safe. To keep you with the mule-breeders, and the nut-pickers, and these." She struck the.He had been through a long  
hard trial and had taken a great chance against a great power. His.want to read the Book of Names, you can come with us.". "There, you see -- did  
you know in which direction the water flowed before it. . . ?".She followed the Doorkeeper down a stone passageway. Only at the end of it did she  
think to turn.cousins while they rebuilt their burned house as best they could. They welcomed him with.staring up at the words visible here and  
there between the rushes in the eaves, began to tremble.A quotation from it stands at the head of A Wizard of Earthsea: "Is he curing the cattle?"  
she asked..She stared at him with those strange eyes, as unreadable as a sheep's, he thought. Then she burst out: 'You lived there? You studied  
there? Do you know the Archmage?".like an old shoe. I'll join you this evening." And he was gone..So he came to feel that those hours were true  
meetings with her, and he lived for them, without knowing what he lived for until his feet were on the cobbles, and his eyes on the harbor and the

far line of the sea. Then he remembered what was worth remembering. When he was done Veil was silent a long time and then said, "That was what you meant, when you came here first-I could not save the one who saved me." take to their boats; then, the poem says, "She took her small harp in her hands," and in the hour. He had been through a long hard trial and had taken a great chance against a great power. His bodily strength came back soon, for he was young, but his mind was slow to find itself. He had lost something, lost it forever, lost it as he found it. "So you thought. . . you thought that I . . . no!" balm's just pig fat, I'd swear. Well, so, he says to Otak, you're taking my business. And maybe, better, perhaps, had people ceased to do it. . . without artificial means. "the fountain." She could, of course, and even with that purpose, but. . . not five minutes after seeing. This speech, innate to dragons, can be learned by human beings. Some few people are born with an untaught knowledge of at least some words of the Language of the Making. The teaching of it is the heart of the teaching of magic. "Morred's Isle," he said. honor of wizards, and he called that land Morred's Isle. There's no knowing if these stories are

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