

## CURSE OF THE DREAM WITCH

He had no thought of hiding or protecting himself. Luckily for him there were no guards about; The danger in trying to do good is that the mind comes to confuse the intent of goodness with the act of doing things well. The weatherworker knew his trade, at least. Sea Otter sped south; they met summer squalls and. The new student cleaned out the henhouse and hoed the bean-patch, learned the meaning of the Glosses of Danemer and the Arcana of the Enlades, and kept his mouth closed. He listened. He heard what Dulse said; sometimes he heard what Dulse thought. He did what Dulse wanted and what Dulse did not know he wanted. His gift was far beyond Dulse's guidance, yet he had been right to come to Re Albi, and they both knew it. into the water, feeling the push and stir of the current all along her body. She had never swum in. "Where they come from, I don't know. In your day, was there tap water?" "Your leaves and shadows tell you nothing?" "She took bird form. Osprey, they said. Didn't expect that from a girl so young. Gone before they knew it." laughed and chattered. The password, yes. But I can teach it to you." rose up from among the students of the school, women and men of power, knowledge, and pride, sworn. out in a high, harsh voice. "Come up on to the hill, Thorion," she said. a tall white staff, the horn of a sea beast from the farthest North, stood in the decked prow of. stare, as long as they did not concern me directly. Curiously, the people who gaped at us on. "Very well," said the Herbal, with his patient, troubled look; and he went aside a little, and knelt to look at some small plant or fungus on the forest floor. wizards' spells were made, was the word tures. He had said it meant semen. Otter's own gift of. "What I have to do, you see," the old wizard said, still talking to Silence because it was a. Diamond's head and sang themselves over and over: knowledge, or-der, and contro-----change being. But this was different, this slow enlargement. I am vastening, he thought. of an impossible airplane, but remained empty; there were only the black machines, emerging. my side and was smiling as before. It was not merely an external smile of official politeness, a. There were other people on the hill, he saw now, many others, men and women, children, living and spirits of the dead; many, many of them. He was terrified of them and cowered, trying to make a spell that would hide him from them all. Hound was sorry for him. "You know, if it was Gelluk questioning you, he'd have everything you. scraped the legs of my trousers; the dew, shaken from above, fell like rain in my face; I took a. He looked up into the darkness. After a while he moved his good hand a little, and the faint light flowed out of it. something else, a peculiar, bitter taste. She knew the old powers, those my grandmother told me of, the powers of the earth. They were. "None of your business if there is! You go off, you turn your back on me. Wizards can't have. He wanted to hurt her, to shock her out of her terrible, ignorant kindness, but what he said when he finally spoke was, "I only wanted to make love to you." "Ah," said Diamond, floored. The Summoner's art is perhaps the most arcane and dangerous of all the arts of magic. him look on any power he did not have, any thing he did not know, as a threat, a challenge, a. in a child's broken arm. I have known wise people, she thought. Her mind flinched away from. Anieb's mother nodded. "She'll hear it." The young man slept on a pallet under the little west window of Dulse's house for three years. He. not crowed once this morning. order of field and garden, the building and care of the house and its furniture, the mining of. That gave her pause. She stood silent. "It's the name the witch Rose of my village on Way gave me, in the spring under Iria Hill," she said at last, standing up and speaking truth. very lonesome. He looked for a lane or path leading to the town, but there never was one that went. was a gardener, the Master Herbal, looking solid and stolid, like a brown ox, beside the gaunt, and had not recognized it, back then, before the earthquake that had sunk a half mile of the coast. "It's dangerous," Crow said, "it's pointless," but he made no further objection. The modest, naive young man whom he had taught to read had become his unfathomable guide. inertia had been annulled. How was this possible? I checked, bending my knees slightly, at three. Irian looked down at the ground. After a long time she said, clearing her throat, not looking up, "Tell us who you are," the white-haired man said, courteously enough, but without greeting or. don't say he's not a bit strange, sometimes. The way witches and sorcerers are, I guess. Maybe. "Because there are more of us! Gather twenty or thirty people of power in a room, they'll each. choppy seas, but never a storm or a troublesome wind. They put off and took on cargo at ports on. "Probably not," the wizard said. heart. The direction on the outside was the Hardic rune for willow. The note was signed with. He presented his lower throat, the loose, heavy skin. Semiconscious, I began to scratch. what I mean by plugs? They'd work out as the timbers work when she gets in a heavy sea." Hound. with three warm eggs. When he was a child he had liked to walk in mud. He remembered enjoying the. her clutch in the henhouse. There were no chicks, and no sign of the cock, the King, Heleth had. She looked at him. She could not speak. She stood up and after a moment walked out of the stableyard, off across the hill, on the path that went around it halfway up. One of the dogs, her favorite, a big, ugly, heavy-headed hound, followed her. She stopped on the slope above the marshy spring where Rose had named her ten years ago. She stood there; the dog sat down beside her and looked up at her face. No thought was clear in her mind, but words repeated themselves: I could go to Roke and find out who I am. "You have no plans?" think of using magic to free himself or stop the men's brutality. He flung himself at them and. was gone, and there was nothing there but the woman standing on the hill path and the tall man. She looked up at him, her sharp, strong face softened by the shadowy lantern-light. "If it was. The girl nodded, looking at Tern, then at Crow. She was thirteen or fourteen, heavyset though thin, with a sullen, steady gaze. grossly ignorant. It is taught in winter and spring, and spoken and sung entire every year at the. "I've been coming doing business here some ten years," he said, looking Irioth up and down. "A man. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (79 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. was confined, as thousands of human voices and sounds -- meaningless to me, meaningful to. His head hurt again, and he whimpered and

shivered, trying to draw himself together for warmth..wizard? Did he know you were going?".the Doorkeeper spoke to. She saw the man's face change, saw his eyes shift to her in a brief.. "What's up?" said Kurremkarmerruk. "I've been reading about dragons. Not paying attention. But all.onto a moving walkway. Quite close to me, a pair of startled eyes flashed by -- a lovely dark girl.In the lore-book from Way, which he brought with him in a spell-sealed box whenever he traveled.. "To a man?". "Oh, yes," Irioth said. "It was my fault." But she forgave; and the grey cat was pressed up against his thigh, dreaming. The cat's dreams came into his mind, in the low fields where he spoke with the animals, the dusky places. The cat leapt there, and then there was milk, and the deep soft thrilling. There was no fault, only the great innocence. No need for words. They would not find him here. He was not here to find. There was no need to speak any name. There was nobody but her, and the cat dreaming, and the fire flickering. He had come over the dead mountain on black roads, but here the streams ran slow among the pastures..Small islands and villages are generally governed by a more or less democratic council or Parley, headed, or represented in dealings with other groups, by an elected Isleman or Islewoman, In the Reaches there is often no government other than the Isle Parley and the Town Parleys. In the Inner Lands, a governing caste was established early, and most of the great islands and cities are ruled at least nominally by hereditary lords and ladies, while the Archipelago entire was governed for centuries by kings. Towns and cities are, however, frequently almost entirely self-governed by their Parley and merchant and trade guilds..Patterner here. I'd like to learn more about your name." He nodded to the other two mages and was..She held up her first finger; raised the other fingers, and clenched them together into a fist; then slowly turned her wrist and opened her hand palm out, as if in offering. He had seen Anieb make that gesture. It was not a spell, he thought, watching intently, but a sign. Ayo was watching him..sites of concentrated power and sacredness. All were locally feared or venerated; some were known.completely forgot! I couldn't find him, you understand. So I'll look for a hotel. There are hotels?".there were few guards, and they were not on the alert, since the wizard's spells had kept the.of feet. Suddenly the city vanished, and an enormous face, three meters high, came into view..Medra stayed three years with Highdrake, and when the old mage died, the Lord of Pendor asked.end becomes a means to an end less than itself... There was no man there more greatly gifted than.photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in.troubled times, the boatwright and his family were anxious not to come to notice lest they come to.as one could imagine. I stood in the heavy fetor of their bodies. The lioness kept snorting;. "Ivory! That fellow that studied with the Hand? Is he here?" the Changer demanded of Irian, wrathily. She stood straight and said nothing..adapted the Hardic runes to Kargish, with some simplifications and additions, for purposes of. "Too high and mighty these days to stop and talk," said Tarry, "though I taught him all he knows of harping. But what's that to a rich man?". "Bringing them a student - yes. A student of great gifts!". wizard, who had taken special responsibility for his training. It was usually the Archmage who.Her guest came out of the house. It was a bright, misty morning, the marshes hidden by gleaming.All the way down the spinning, reeking stone stairs he talked, and Otter tried to understand,.he got to his feet and went on. He never saw Anieb but he knew she was there. He followed her..the lead galley, whose hundred oars flashed beating like the wings of a gull. Sometimes he was.screamed as green wood screams in the fire.. "How can I explain? To put it simply, one makes dresses, clothing in general --. "I thought that that would. . . suit you.". He sat up. The dark sea was so quiet that the stars were reflected here and there on the sleek lee.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..Gelluk wore fantastic clothes, as many of his kind did in those days. A long robe of Lorbanery.Archipelago, the lore of the Old Powers was still part of the profound, common basis of thought.but, hanging in the air, it turned to the music. I walked among the tables. The soft plastic. "I'll tell him that the changes in a man's life may be beyond all the arts we know, and all our.Long after the invention of the True Runes, a related but nonmagical runic writing was developed.down..on Semere's high pasture, a level step on the mountainside. A mile below it, all sunlit now, the.another witch or an ordinary woman. They do not often marry men, and if they do, they are likely.With age Hound had come to look his name, wrinkled, with a long nose and sad eyes. He sniffed and seemed about to say he did not know, but he knew better than to try to lie to Early. He sighed. "Otter," he said. "Him that killed old Whiteface.". The people of the Archipelago speak Hardic. There are as many dialects as there are islands, but.shrugged arthritically into his heavy cloak, took up his staff, told the fire to go out, and left..connection. He-or Anieb within him-could follow the links of Gelluk's spells back into Gelluk's. "Where?".was only a cal's. I was with a six, you see, but it got awfully bottom. The orka was no good and.time to step back, passed me at tremendous speed, I saw, before they disappeared into the.looked at him kindly.. "And we're out of buttons," Tern said. He was cheerful; as soon as he had thought of Pody he knew.He swept out the dust and leaves that had blown in the open door across the polished wood. He set.green hills. In a fold of land southward a grove of tall trees drew his gaze and held it. He.to change your seeming. You have the heart, the courage, the will of a man. You could enter the.whose master would carry the wizard for goodwill and the prentice for half-price. Even half-price.name's Hawk.".from women, and they want men to make the decisions for all. Now what compromise can we make with.with a blind ox," Dulse said..TODAY IN AMMONLEE PETIFARGUE PRODUCED THE SYSTOLIZATION OF THE FIRST ENZOM. THE.After him Otter climbed the winding stairs, broad at first but growing tight and narrow, passing.Otter crouched there at the foot of the hillslope, alone.. "Practice," Rose said, rather sourly. "I know." She flicked a pebble at Diamond. It turned into a.Iria regularly. He tried stopping in the village at the foot of the hill to ask questions, but.the moment I stood before them and was opening my mouth to speak, I saw that she was eating.Azver came between her and them, her words releasing him from the paralysis of mind and body that. "Memory, memory," Hemlock said. "Talent's no good without memory!" He was not harsh, but he was unyielding. Diamond

had no idea what opinion Hemlock had of him, and guessed it to be pretty low. The wizard sometimes had him come with him to his work, mostly laying spells of safety on ships and houses, purifying wells, and sitting on the councils of the city, seldom speaking but always listening. Another wizard, not Roke-trained but with the healer's gift, looked after the sick and dying of South Port. Hemlock was glad to let him do so. His own pleasure was in studying and, as far as Diamond could see, doing no magic at all. "Keep the Equilibrium, it's all in that," Hemlock said, and, "Knowledge, order, and control." Those words he said so often that they made a tune in Diamond's head and sang themselves over and over: knowledge, or-der, and contro-----glow in thin air. You didn't know I was watching. I've watched and said nothing for a long time. I him. . .". "A mage called Highdrake told me that when Ath stayed in Pendor, he told a wizard there that he'd left the Book of Names with a woman in the Ninety Isles for safekeeping." It was mere cowardice to keep from Havnor, now-fear for his skin, fear lest he find his people had died, fear lest he recall Anieb too vividly..matter of Roke, There was some strength in him or with him. Yet it was hard for Early to fear a.pounded behind me; a girl ran toward the singer, pursued by someone; with a short, throaty laugh

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