

FOR CHRIST'S CROWN AND OTHER SERMONS

was neglected or actively suppressed by their society and government. Except as an evil to be."But it was you who said. . ."He had half-consciously dreaded that Diamond would triumph over him, asserting his power right.What do I want? she asked herself, and the answer came not in words but throughout her whole body and soul: the fire, a greater fire than that, the flight, the flight burning -.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.."Are you there, my dear?" said the traveler. He spoke in the Old Speech, the Language of the Making. "Come along, then, Ulla," he said, and the heifer came a step or two towards him, towards her name, while he walked to meet her. He made out the big head more by touch than sight, stroking the silken dip between her eyes, scratching her forehead at the roots of the nubbin horns. "Beautiful, you are beautiful," he told her, breathing her grassy breath, leaning against her large warmth. "Will you lead me, dear Ulla? Will you lead me where I need to go?".The witch still said nothing. They walked along in the darkness side by side. At last, in a placating, frightened voice, Rose said, "It came so ...".for dragons! But that there was some kind of scheming and gathering together of men of power on.outside the barracks. The autumn sun was warm. The wizard had taken off his conical hat, and his.there; walking with Licky; sitting with Gelluk; the slaves, the fire, the stone stairs winding up.the other in honour of King Lebannen. "Hello, little namesakes," he told them when he was alone."I'll bring food," he said, and strode on, quickening his pace so that he vanished soon, though not so abruptly as the Namer, in the light and shadow under the trees. Irian watched till he was certainly gone and then made her way through high grass and weeds to the little house..not yet seen its true goal. I very strongly advise that you not take that risk. Write your.He took the word with a visible shock, but did not deny it..galley he scented something. "Well, well," he said, "who's this?" He walked to the helm and put.and golden on her face. He said her name. She gave him sleep..years, in the minds of most people, all magic was black..lines with his hands, so; and he was free..A reddish seam remained, a scar through the dirt and gravel and uprooted grass..She tried to sit up again, looking up, but the shaking and shuddering seized her and wracked her.."Do wizards have no family?".and reverence. On all the islands, the arts mostly practiced by witches, such as midwifery,.,asked Tern to take her to see her family, mother and sister and two sons; he would leave Mote with.The spasm passed; Heleth answered, "Inside it. There at Yaved." He pointed to the knotted hills below them. "I'll go in, try to keep things from sliding around, eh? I'll find out when I'm doing it, no doubt. I think you should be getting back to yourself. Things are tightening up." He stopped again, looking as if he were in intense pain, hunched and clenched. He struggled to stand up. Unthinking, Ogion held out his hand to help him..patient, but the patience of the horse kind was wonderful, being freely given. Dogs were loyal,.,Never old. I can't teach you. I can take you into the Grove." After a minute he stood up. "Yes?".size and prosperity.."How will you do it?" the Summoner asked..breath. Words came to me and I spoke them. I said, Hama Gondun! And Kurremkarmerruk told them this."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?". "Don't come near me!".down on the doorstep, sat down beside them, cleaned his feet with rainwater from the pot by the."The money and the music.".Roke, unsealed and entered the cave, defeated the Dark Woman, and took her place..the dark night brings forth the moon!". "I'm a mere passenger, Master Bagman. I gladly leave the winds in your hands.". "On Havnor," he said," far from Roke, in a village on Mount Onn, among people who know nothing of.flick of his finger, he untied Otter's wrists, and the gagging kerchief fell loose..sunlight; and the first part of the Great House they made was its inmost heart, the courtyard of.At last she moved, and kissed his cheek, and whispered, "I missed you, I missed you, I missed you..courtesy, and because neither Gully or Otak seemed names well suited to him. An otak, she had."Well, well, well," he said to his wife, frequently, "all rosy again, eh? Got the apple of your.It was their mage Ogion whom the people saw stand alone on the roof of the signal tower on the wharf, when the streets ran up and down in waves, the cobbles bursting out of them, and walls of clay brick puffed into dust, and the Armed Cliffs leaned together, groaning. It was Ogion they saw, his hands held out before him, straining, parting: and the cliffs parted with them, and stood straight, unmoved. The city shuddered and stood still. It was Ogion who stopped the earthquake. They saw it, they said it..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (53 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]."I learned it really quickly," Diamond said..the True Speech. This could mean human wizards, or dragons, or both. In the arcane Lore of Paln,.,Ivory looked at that hill with a kind of longing hatred..He stared at her, seeing a round-faced woman, middle-aged, short and strong, with grey in her hair.King Maharion sought peace and never found it. While Erreth-Akbe was in Karego-At (which may have been a period of years), the depredations of the dragons increased. The Inward Isles were troubled by refugees fleeing the western lands and by interruptions to shipping and trade, since the dragons had taken to setting fire to boats that went west of Hosk, and harried ships even in the Inmost Sea. All the wizards and armed men Maharion could command went out to fight the dragons, and he went with them himself four times; but swords and arrows were little use against armored, fire-spouting, flying enemies. Paln was "a plain of charcoal," and villages and towns in the west of Havnor had been burnt to the ground. The king's wizards had spell-caught and killed several dragons over the Pelnish Sea, which probably increased the dragons' ire. Just as Erreth-Akbe returned, the Great Dragon Orm flew to the City of Havnor and threatened the towers of the king's palace with fire.."I thought you were on your toes. . ."."They put something into the blood, I think.".The clouds darkened. Rain passed through the

little valley, falling on the dirt and the grass. Otter's shoulder. "I know you have the gift of finding what's hidden. Quite a great gift, were it liquid. She leaned still closer. I could smell her breath. If she was drunk, it was not on alcohol. bewilder and entangle a slave trying to escape. Now he felt those spells like strands of cobweb, morning sunlight; along an alley, among trees with pale pink leaves, walked three youths in shirts. begun to get a sense of the missing word that might fill one of the gaps, he almost had it, and weather, if you have any need of that. And I'll learn the art from any who will teach me." Gont Port lies at the inner end of a long narrow bay between steep shores. Its entrance from the faced and bright-eyed and cheerful. He had taken it hard when his voice changed, the sweet treble. him, then going on, talking on. "Darkrose," he breathed in her ear, his secret name for her. "If a word can heal, a word can wound," the witch said. "If a hand can kill, a hand can cure. It's. For a long time nobody would touch him. He had fallen down in a fit in San's doorway. He lay there now like a dead man. But the curer from the south said he wasn't dead, and was as dangerous as an adder. San told how Otak had put a curse on Sunbright and said some awful words that made him get smaller and smaller and wail like a stick in the fire, and then all in a moment he was back in himself again, but sick as a dog, as who could blame him, and all the while there was this light around the other one, Otak, like a wavering fire, and shadows jumping, and his voice not like any human voice. A terrible thing. shadowy sunrise land. Far ahead, bright in the first sunlight, he saw the curve of a high green. "Back that way," said the taverner. the silence, in the cell in the tower. Nobody else knew what was going on. We fought. A long time. He was in fact a town boy, born in Gont Port. He had said nothing about himself, but Dulse had asked around a bit. The father, a longshoreman, had died in the big earthquake, when Silence would have been seven or eight; the mother was a cook at a waterfront inn. At twelve the boy had got into some kind of trouble, probably messing about with magic, and his mother had managed to prentice him to Elassen, a respectable sorcerer in Valmouth. There the boy had picked up his true name, and some skill in carpentry and farmwork, if not much else; and Elassen had had the generosity, after three years, to pay his passage to Roke. That was all Dulse knew about him. none so extreme as to be wholly unintelligible to the others. Once instead of smiling and agreeing, she said, "It's lovely to have him back, but" and Golden stopped hearing. Mothers were born to worry about their children, and women were born never to be content. There was no reason why he should listen to the litany of anxieties by which Tuly hauled herself through life. Of course she thought a merchant's life wasn't good enough for the boy. She'd have thought being King in Havnor wasn't good enough for him. Book of Earthsea. out to be a thief. I mean, there ought to be a little trust. behind them emerged majestically slow, huge surfaces filled with people, like flying stations, the harbor, the piers, the fishing boats, only when he was outdoors and away from Hemlock and his. however well sung, wrecks the tune it isn't part of. Women teach women. Witches learn their craft. enlightening mageries and charms, all the lore and rules of Roke, all the wisdom of the books. Ard. Changer's face remained stern, but he blinked, and after a little thought said, "I'm sure - yes - midair, whereupon some of the people stepped down onto the approaching branch of another. She looked him up and down. "Marks on it, sir," she said. And then, to Tern, in a different tone, "If you'd like to come with me, she lives this way. And though she's only a girl, and poor, I'll tell you, peddler, she has an open hand. Though perhaps not all of us do." of Atuan, the Terrenon, the Lips of Paor, and many other places, may be coeval with the world. never asked him about his teacher. welcome. "Tell us how you came here." preventing raids and forays, imposing penalties and settlements, enforcing boundaries, and. and a powerful mage when he faced the dragon Orm. The True Runes used in the Archipelago embody words of the Speech of the Making. True Runes are not symbols only, but reifactors: they can be used to bring a thing or condition into being or bring about an event. To write such a rune is to act. The power of the action varies with the circumstances. Most of the True Runes are found only in ancient texts and lore-books, and used only by wizards trained in their use; but a good many of them, such as the symbol written on the door lintel to protect a house from fire, are in common use, familiar to unlearned people. full of shame and rage and vengefulness. Diamond might take place at any time during the last couple of hundred years in Earthsea; after. stranger. When they saw Irioth they looked uneasy. San went into his house and the stranger. "Third time's the charm." Her use-name had been Flag, the blue iris of the springs. Her mother and aunt called her Flag when. the village he was light-headed and weak-kneed. He took a long time getting home from Alder's. A man came up the mountain to Woodedge, a charcoal burner from Firm. "My wife Nesty sends a message to the wise women," he said, and the villagers showed him Ayo's house. As he stood in the doorway he made a hurried motion, a fist turned to an open palm. "Nesty says tell you that the crows are flying early and the hound's after the otter," he said. window looking out on a back-street. No spells - you can't make spells with all their magic going. Curious manners, I thought. But, then, if that's what's done. . . . Songs and stories indicate that dragons existed before any other living creature. The Old Hardic kennings or euphemisms for the word dragon are Firstborn, Eldest, Elder Children. (The words for the firstborn child of a family in Osskilian, akhad, and in Kargish, gadda, are derived from the word haath, "dragon," in the Old Speech.) "Hah!" said Golden. "Well! I will say I'm glad of it, son." He ate a small porkpie in one. under the Kings, became common. Magic was the primary weapon in forays and battles. Wizards hired. felt no wind; it must have been blowing higher up, and the voice of the trees, steady, stately. "This is the way in, sir." "You talk in a strange way. Where are you from?" "Why of course not?" "One of the old women you had tortured before they burned the lot, you know? Well, the fellow who did it told me. She talked about her son on Roke. Calling out to him to come, you know. But like as if he had the power to." Nor he mine. I won't speak yours again. But I like to know it, since you know mine." The curer said nothing to the cowboy but went straight to the mule, or hinny, rather, being out of San's big jenny by Alder's white horse. She was a whitey roan, young, with a pretty face. He went and talked to her for a minute, saying something in her big, delicate ear and rubbing her topknot. awkward, ignorant, innocent, angry woman, yes. But ever since she was a child Rose had seen. lions. . . . act of doing things well. nominative formed from the

Old Hardic verb seoge, "make, shape, come intentionally to be." From."I heard -" she said, and could not say what she had heard..which we are sworn to follow.".Of innumerable sacred groves, caves, mountains, hills, springs, and stones on the Four Lands, the holiest place was a cavern and standing stones in the desert of Atuan, called the Tombs. It was a center of pilgrimage from the earliest recorded times, and the kings of Atuan and later of Hupun maintained a hostel there for all who came to worship.."I spoke your true name. It's not what I thought it would be. And I don't feel easy about it. As..since last night. He knew also that in that same moment he might defeat Gelluk, disempower him, if..can take him. He had seen our lord and the young king there, in that country across the wall of..deep shadows. Low armchairs, a black liquid with green foam in glasses, lanterns that spilled tiny..drunk. Perhaps it had only seemed that way to me before..When you construct or reconstruct a world that never existed, a wholly fictional history, the..the more so as they were conflated with the Old Powers..".Do what?".your risk in this venture?".shoulders hunched, joined the stream of pedestrians. The corridor widened, became a hall. Fiery..There were many such isles in the Archipelago, made barren and desolate by rival wizards' blights and curses; they were evil places to come to or even to pass, and Medra thought no more about this one, until that night..".You must find the Red Mother," he said, the day after that. They were sitting side by side again outside the barracks. The autumn sun was warm. The wizard had taken off his conical hat, and his thick grey hair flowed loose about his face. "I know you found that little patch for them to dig, but there's no more in that than a few drops. It's scarcely worth burning for so little. If you are to help me, and if I am to teach you, you must try a little harder. I think you know how." He smiled at Otter. "Don't you?".Otter was slow to recover, to heal. The bonesetter did what he could about his broken arm and his.."Pretty good, pretty good," his father said. "Keep practicing." And he went on. He was not sure..LANGUAGES..claiming lands and cities as his property. The warlords made those they conquered slaves, and.."Are there still marriages?".the King, and the Allking, and the Body of the Moon." His gaze, benevolent and inquisitive, passed..Forms of fiefdom, vassalage, and slavery have existed at times in some areas, but not under the rule of the Havnorian Kings..maybe not all your name. I think you have another..".I'll bring food," he said, and strode on, quickening his pace so that he vanished soon, though.."You don't look like a man," he said. Her face fell. "Not to me. You'll never look like a man to.."Why didn't you come to me first?" Dulse had demanded. "And then Roke, to put a polish on it?".receiving comfort. Rose extracted, dropped, and spat on the last maggot, and said, "Just hand me..you do, either, ever. So go!".saw the whole plan now was folly. There was no way he could disguise her that would fool the..art, any word of the Language of the Making. It's always been so. They will not listen. So they

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