

THE STORY OF SOY

The last heirs of the House of Hupun were a boy and girl, Ensar and Anthil. Wishing to end the line of the Kargish kings but unwilling to risk sacrilege by shedding royal blood, the Godking ordered these children to be stranded on a desert island. Among her clothes and toys the princess Anthil had the half of the broken Ring brought by Erreth-Akbe, which had descended to her from Thoreg's daughter. As an old woman she gave this to the young wizard Ged, shipwrecked on her island. Later, with the help of the high priestess of the Tombs of Atuan, Arha-Tenar, Ged was able to rejoin the broken halves of the Ring and so remake the Rune of Peace. He and Tenar brought the healed Ring to Havnor, to await the heir of Morred and Serriadh, King Lebannen..out again in haste; they threw torn ribbons on the floor, not telegraph tapes, something else, with..wouldn't. "Stay here while you can," she said..the cattlemen were coming to think well of him. Of course they would grab at any promise of help..teaching. As she walked, she listened to the leaves when the wind rustled them or stormed in the..He broke free, stood up, stooping; neither of them could stand straight in the low cabin. Clenching and unclenching his hands, he stood as far from her as he could, his back to her..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (61 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].being a musician."A wonder she was, and Dory bade fair to follow her."The first test is the great test, Dragonfly," he said. Every night he lay alone in this cabin he."Everything is practice," Tangle said. She was never ill-natured. She seldom thought to do anything much for her daughter, but never hurt her, never scolded her, and gave her whatever she asked for, dinner, a toad of her own, the amethyst necklace, lessons in witchcraft. She would have provided new clothes if Rose had asked for them, but she never did. Rose had looked after herself from an early age; and this was one of the reasons Diamond loved her. With her, he knew what freedom was. Without her, he could attain it only when he was hearing and singing and playing music..the flare and dazzle of the flames. "Evil spirits that work for the King become clean," he said,."I won't sail my boat across Havnor, dear love. I plan to go around it. By water." He could always make her laugh; he was the only one who could. When he was away, she was quiet-voiced and even-tempered, having learned the uselessness of impatience in the work that must be done. Sometimes she still scowled, sometimes she smiled, but she did not laugh. When she could, she went to the Grove alone, as she had always done. But in these years of the building of the House and the founding of the school, she could go there seldom, and even then she might take a couple of students to learn with her the ways through the forest and the patterns of the leaves; for she was the Patterner.."Tonight," Dragonfly said. "At our spring, under Iria Hill. What he doesn't know won't hurt him."..almost immeasurable differences. One of these differences may be, or may be indicated by, the lack..why he tried to weaken her faith in wizardry; perhaps because any weakening of her strength, her..sat down on the pallet, and went on thinking. The prisoning spell was still there, yet it had no..wet, cold time, and firewood was one thing they had plenty of, here on the mountain..knelt by the loud-running water, but an otter slipped into it and was gone..Starving hungry, frustrated, misunderstood, Diamond reached out to hold her again, to make her body understand his body, repeating that first, deep embrace that had held all the years of their lives in it. He found himself standing two feet back, his hands stinging and his ears ringing and his eyes dazzled. The lightning was in Rose's eyes, and her hands sparked as she clenched them. "Never do that again," she whispered..The ocean, however, is older than the islands; so say the songs..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (82 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].inertia had been annulled. How was this possible? I checked, bending my knees slightly, at three..Havnor, gathering its tributaries on the way. Eighty ships sailed past Ark and Ilien on a true and..She sat on a while by the Thwilburn. She was troubled by what he had told her and by her thoughts..your hair, mistress! Or paper, or books. Our masters in Orrimy are seeking such things, if you had."Irian," he said, and now her name came easily, sweet and cool as spring water in his dry mouth. "Irian, here's what you must do to enter the Great House..."It was Havnor, his land, where his people were, whether alive or dead he did not know; where Anieb..She was getting used to his strange face now and was able to read it. She thought that he looked sad. His way of speaking was harsh, quick, dry, peaceable. The men of the Isle are not always wise, eh?" he said. "Maybe the Doorkeeper." He looked at her now, not glancing but squarely, his eyes catching and holding hers. "But there. In the wood. Under the trees. There is the old wisdom. Never old. I can't teach you. I can take you into the Grove." After a minute he stood up. "Yes?"..After a long time the door opened and several men came in. He could do nothing against them as.."That would spare us much trouble and some danger," said the young Finder..The head of the giant rolled its eyes, reeled, looked at me as if it were having great fun..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (78 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].wondered if he had always talked to himself, if he had talked all the time when Silence lived with..spend some time in the Archives of the Archipelago..But beyond the rich and the lordly were those called the Men of Power: the wizards. Their power,.,has clung to it since. Witches paid dearly for practicing the arts they thought of as their own..bottom, as I had thought; I was actually high up, about forty floors above the bands of the..off for the Ninety Isles as soon as Tern liked..He hard-boiled the three new eggs and one already in the larder and put them into a pouch along with four apples and a bladder of resinated wine, in case he had to stay out all night. He shrugged arthritically into his heavy cloak, took up his staff, told the fire to go out, and left..The faintest little sighing tremor ran over the slow, smooth swells..city man and a saltwater man, he knew little of farms and their animals, but he thought the donkey..uneasy in an ordinary-looking town on a sweet spring morning, but in such silence he must wonder..But before that and after are the streams. Caves, stones, hills. Trees. The earth. The darkness of..their hair. They kissed each other,

timidly at first..me was a wall-sized television screen. The volume was off. Now, from a sitting position, I saw an..She had thought maybe his talk of coming here to cure the cattle sickness was one of the mad bits..Medra to take his place. Despite his ranting and scolding against dragon hunters, High-drake had."Do you?" asked the man in the red tunic, smiling a little..them and rearranged them. "Now I must speak of harm," he said..the last high note. "I haven't got it right yet," Diamond said, vexed and embarrassed..He was half asleep, sitting on the ground in the shade by the barracks, the smell of the logs stacked by the roaster tower bringing him a memory of the work yards at home, the fragrance of new wood as the plane ran down the silky oak board. Some noise or movement roused him. He looked up and saw the wizard standing before him, looming above him..still clear enough under the green grasses of summer..She looked at him and at the Doorkeeper and said nothing..learned his true name from the trees of the Immanent Grove, and become the Patterner of Roke, All."At least he's not seeing the witch's girl," said Golden. "That's done with." Later on it occurred.All the way down the spinning, reeking stone stairs he talked, and Otter tried to understand, because this was a man of power telling him what power was..the room; her lips moved, she was speaking, and gems as big as shields covered her ears, glittered.The evil reputation magic had gained during the Dark Time, however, continued to cling to many of..know how to teach her. There are no teachers left on the mountain. King Losen's wizards destroy.This was a hotel, not the Prometheus. I remembered it all: the labyrinths of the station, the.."Well, of course they do," said Rose, "that's what they're there for!".together for years, each supporting and increasing the other's power, each in the belief that the.."What's Alder paying you for all this?" she demanded while the water was heating. She was still indignant, speaking more bluntly even than usual.."Well, this boy did learn at last to tame his anger and control his power. And a very great power.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..of riding twenty or thirty miles to restock, they wanted to cut the tongue out of a steer that had..years old, "Why did you have me if you didn't want me?".times she had come into his dreams, standing silent as she stood when he first saw her in the..prentices were faithless, Gelluk thought, reminded of his prentice Early, too clever by half, whom..of resistance he had. The illusion and the shape-change were all the tricks he had to play. If he..vellum that had been worked into the thatching of his house. "They good for something else?" Crow,."Stop," I grumbled. "Any more apologizing and I'll really feel all that time.".Since the coronation of King Lebannen and the restoration of the High Courts and Councils in Havnor Great Port, Roke has remained without an archmage. It appears that this office, not originally part of the governance of the school or of the Archipelago, is no longer useful or appropriate, and that Ged, whom many call the greatest of the arch-mages, may have been the last.."Why did you come here, Teriel?".more or less concealed violence) and deified by the priests of Awabath. The Four Lands were..gave him to put on, and ate a little food she gave him to eat, and lay down on the pallet she led."Nobody can do more than that," said Rose..blue that clung to her like a liquid congealed; her arms and breasts were hidden in a navy-blue..the wizards. Though they speak the True Speech, they are endlessly devious. Some of them clearly..the True Speech. This could mean human wizards, or dragons, or both. In the arcane Lore of Paln,..family, on which was engraved a unique and powerful True Rune..What the commodifiers of fantasy count on and exploit is the insuperable imagination of the..Three children, two boys of fifteen or sixteen and a girl of twelve, were taken by one of Losen's..authority except the King in Havnor..Ember was on the dock to meet him. Lame and very thin, he came to her and took her hands, but he could not lift his face to hers. He said, "I have too many deaths on my heart, Elehal"..and saw his love so clear, so close, that he reached out his hand to touch her. If he reached out..unyielding. Diamond had no idea what opinion Hemlock had of him, and guessed it to be pretty low..They greeted him, and Azver took the word - "Come into the Grove, Master Windkey," he said, "and..With you there to vouch for me - to say even if I am a woman, I have some gift - and I'd promise..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (42 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].what he saw. But he saw it, and went forward, word by word..He strode from the house, turned, and set a fire spell on it so that it burst into flames, thatch and walls and every window spouting fire. Women ran out of it screaming. They had been hiding no doubt in the back room; he paid them no attention. "Hound," he thought. He spoke the summoning, using Hound's true name, and the old man came to him as he was bound to do. He was sullen, though, and said, "I was in the tavern, down the way there, you could have said my use-name and I'd have come.".Early looked at him once. Hound's mouth snapped shut and stayed shut.."But you can't undo this!" he said aloud..stairs and inside. The stewardess led me between the rows of seats to the very front. I hadn't.."Flew away?".When in 730 the first Archmage of Roke, Halkel of Way, excluded women from the school, among his Nine Masters only the Patterner and the Doorkeeper protested; they were overruled. For more than three centuries, no woman taught or studied at the school on Roke. During those centuries, wizardry was an honored art, conferring status and power, while witchery was an unclean and ignorant superstition, practiced by women, paid for by peasants..My teacher had no staff, Dulse thought, and at the same moment thought, He wants his staff from me. Gontish oak, from the hands of a Gontish wizard. Well, if he earns it I'll make him one. If he can keep his mouth closed. And I'll leave him my lore-books. If he can clean out a henhouse, and understand the Glosses of Danemer, and keep his mouth closed.."Ach, it's a witch's den," Crow said, at the whiff of herbs and aromatic smoke, and he stepped..and said gently, confidentially, "I'm sure you can find the great lode.". "Then to me you are Silence," the wizard said. "You can sleep in the nook under the west window. There's an old pallet in the woodhouse. Air it. Don't bring mice in with it." And he stalked off towards the Overfell, angry with the boy for coming and with himself for giving in; but it was not anger that made his heart pound. Striding along-he could stride, then-with the seawind pushing at him always from the left

and the early sunlight on the sea out past the vast shadow of the mountain, he thought of the Mages of Roke, the masters of the art magic, the professors of mystery and power. "He was too much for 'em, was he? And he'll be too much for me," he thought, and smiled. He was a peaceful man, but he did not mind a bit of danger..along with us -- you can't take a step here, I thought, it's a wonder they still have legs -- but this..be distasteful to us, but which may be seen as quite legitimate and even desirable by its own..felt the bonds close and tighten, and the old shadow fall.. "Of course you do! What does it matter what Tarry thinks? You already play the harp about nine times better than he ever did." "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." "DRAGONS." "Captain," he said, "I'm sorry, I must wait to spell your sails. An earthquake is near. I must warn the city. Do you tell them down there, every ship that can sail make for the open sea. Clear out, past the Armed Cliffs! Good luck to you." And he turned and ran back up the street, a tall, strong man with rough greying hair, running now like a stag..in the air, turned concave, and became motionless. We sat facing each other; the girl tapped two. "You have been a witch, Irian?"..the Kargad Lands, bearing the Bond Ring as pledge of his king's sincerity, he came to Hupun as the

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