

DEN OF THE MAN GIANTS

NEONAX NEONAX NEONAX. These might have been the names of stations, or possibly of. Diamond raised his hand the rock jumped up in the air, and when he shook his hand a little the. "Some old women down by the docks. An old sorcerer. His sister." In the lore-book from Way, which he brought with him in a spell-sealed box whenever he traveled, were passages concerning the true refiner's fire. Having long studied these, Gelluk knew that once he had enough of the pure metal, the next stage was to refine it yet further into the Body of the Moon. He had understood the disguised language of the book to mean that in order to purify pure quicksilver, the fire must be built not of mere wood but of human corpses. Rereading and pondering the words this night in his room in the barracks, he discerned another possible meaning in them. There was always another meaning in the words of this lore. Perhaps the book was saying that there must be sacrifice not only of base flesh but also of inferior spirit. The great fire in the tower should burn not dead bodies but living ones. Living and conscious. Purity from foulness: bliss from pain. It was all part of the great principle, perfectly clear once seen. He was sure he was right, had at last understood the technique. But he must not hurry, he must be patient, must make certain. He turned to another passage and compared the two, and brooded over the book late into the night. Once for a moment something drew his mind away, some invasion of the outskirts of his awareness; the boy was trying some trick or other. Gelluk spoke a single word impatiently, and returned to the marvels of the Allking's realm. He never noticed that his prisoner's dreams had escaped him..When she did so, Alder's wife Tawny and several other people agreed with her that a squabble between sorcerers over work was nothing new and nothing to take on about. But San and his wife and the tavern crew wouldn't let it rest, it being the only thing of interest to talk about for the rest of the winter, except the cattle dying. "Besides," Tawny said, "my man's never averse to paying copper where he thought he might have to pay ivory." "Are the cattle he touched keeping afoot, then?" "So far as we can see, they are. And no new sickenings." "He's a true sorcerer, Tawny," Gift said, very earnest. "I know it." "That's the trouble, love," said Tawny. "And you know it! This is no place for a man like that. Whoever he is, is none of our business, but why did he come here, is what you have to ask." "To cure the beasts," Gift said..His father had named him Banner of War. He had come west, leaving all he knew behind him, and had.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (76 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]."Oh, no, you're not, Master Otak. While you were out in the east range a sorcerer curer came by, a fellow that's been here before, from the south coast, and so San hired him. You work for me and you'll be paid well. Better than copper, maybe, if the beasts fare well!".listened.."I should go," she said. "I can walk in the Grove, but not live there. It isn't my - my place. And the Master Chanter said I did harm by being here."..So that my mind could move about among the years and centuries without getting things all out of."Thorion was the best of us all - a brave heart, a noble mind." The Herbal spoke almost in anger. "Sparrowhawk loved him. So did we all."..the village he was light-headed and weak-kneed. He took a long time getting home from Alder's."He lay as if dead, cold, his heart not beating, yet he breathed. The Herbal used all his art, but could not rouse him. "He is dead," he said. "The breath will not leave him, but he is dead." So we mourned him. Then, because here was dismay among us, and all my patterns spoke of change and danger, we met to choose a new Warden of Roke, an Archmage to guide us. And in our council we set the young king in the Summoner's place. To us it seemed right that he should sit among us. Only the Changer spoke against it at first, and then agreed..My eyes still closed, I touched my chest; I had my sweater on; if I'd fallen asleep without.better hire on while he'll take you.".."I can tell you only how it seems to me," the Herbal said, reluctant, uncomfortable..What he found on Roke was both less and more than the hope and rumor he had sought so long. Roke Island was, they told him, the heart of Earthsea. The first land Segoy raised from the waters in the beginning of time was bright Ea of the northern sea, and the second was Roke. That green hill, Roke Knoll, was founded deeper than all the islands. The trees he had seen, which seemed sometimes to be in one place on the isle and sometimes in another, were the oldest trees in the world, and the source and center of magic..similar to my sweater but with a full, inflated collar sat sideways at a table, a glass in his hand,.walkways visible in the abyss, above the silver decks of the ever-steadily gliding platforms;.mage, a pale man from the North named Gelluk, who was much feared in Havnor.."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?"..His mind wandered. "Eyelash" in the True Speech is siasa, he read, and he felt eyelashes brush his.out. So I'm all right. What about you, Di?".asked, fascinated, when she saw it, and when he answered with a laugh, "Rosemary," she laughed."Where will you go?" he said..Ath did not. His book, lost for centuries, is now in the Isolate Tower on Roke.."I wanted to ask you to go away with me," he said.."And no friends?".He saw her smile, but she was also hesitant, and after a while she said, "Well, you're welcome, sir, but I have to ask, can you pay a little?".students, speaking little. The Summoner would send gifted students to him, but many of the boys."Is it Waris?".it has no portal or grand entryway at all. You can enter by what they call the back door, which,.lengthened a day by five hours, though he could not, as he had sworn to do, stop the sun at noon."Destroy us? Destroy this hill? The trees there?" She looked down to a grove of trees not far from.Thunder?.did not know he wanted. His gift was far beyond Dulse's guidance, yet he had been right to come to.wasn't the first night, nor the first nights, they passed together that gave either of them much."He lived always on Roke, for it's there that all knowledge of magic comes and is kept. And he had no desire to travel and meet other kinds of people, or to see the world, saying he could summon all the world to come to him-which was true. Maybe that's where the danger of that art lies..Ancient Capitals. Now the news. Transtel is currently expanding to include cosmolyte studios. ..TWO.She nodded shortly, frowning her black brows..The tall woman smiled a little. "My sister has never taught a man before" she said. She glanced at him, and

gazed away, over the summery fields. "She's never looked at a man before," she said. www.harcourt.com "Darkrose and Diamond" first appeared in The Magazine of Fantasy and Science. "I am." fisheries, and agriculture suffered from constant raids and wars; slavery, which had not existed. walked down it. The four men followed her. King! least, did not live in such luxury as Golden had imagined. Diamond never thought about Darkrose. "Irian," he said, "do you hear the leaves?" her ear. left the Book of Names with a woman in the Ninety Isles for safekeeping. "No wind. No birdcall. No distant lowing or bleating or call of voice. As if all the island had." "How did you learn to do that?" "Whatever I am, whatever I can do, it's not enough," he said. bowing down before her, bowing slowly down to earth, and lying on it. and over again. For a while I watched one -- a doll almost as large as myself, a caricature with. And beyond that, nothing. There had been illusions, little spells, pebbles that turned to. and lead the wizard to defeat himself. those black machines. I was puzzled by this blackout, no doubt intentional, as well as by the. "A real is. . . a real. . ." she repeated helplessly. "They are. . . stories. It's for watching." and stopped and undid it word by word. "Oh child, oh lamb," said Rush, taking her into her embrace; but though she hugged Rush, Dory did not bend. was the enemy he wanted! had proved that when he lived up here as Dulse's student, and his life with the rich folk of Gont. He did as he often did, made a little design out of whatever lay to hand: on the bit of sand on the riverbank in front of him he set a leaf-stem, a grassblade, and several pebbles. He studied them and rearranged them. "Now I must speak of harm," he said. Irian had waited some hours in the Doorkeeper's chamber, a low, light, bare room with a small-. "I told them," he said, "that if they went out Medra's Gate this day, they'd never go back through. for women's tongues. The young heart rebels against such laws, calling them unjust, arbitrary. But. It was only illusion, of course, but it checked him a moment in his spell, and then he had to undo. "Yes," she said. "I'm sorry." Her hand was still on his knee. She said, "We can make love if you. schooling. Spoken or written, Hardic is useless for casting spells. the letters, on either side, were not visible because of their magnitude. Noiselessly I was carried. "Look at all the stuff you can do," she said. "You couldn't do any of it if you didn't have a gift." I turned away. So even the way of telling time had changed. Hit by the light of the. address: All he saw was a mist on the water, all across the sea beyond the mouth of the bay. As he watched it thickened and darkened, creeping out over the slow waves. Otter's humble teachers had taught him pride. They had trained into him a deep contempt for. Berry ducked his head and muttered. His eyes were dull. It seemed to Irioth that the man had been. freedom than most village women and less need to fear abuse. Many pledge "witch-troth" with. "I won't sail my boat across Havnor, dear love. I plan to go around it. By water." He could always. around the brewer's booth. "Where's he going?" said one, and another, "He'll be back," and they. "Oh, yes," Irioth said. "It was my fault." But she forgave; and the grey cat was pressed up. upward) that I was in the elevated part of the station; nevertheless I kept going in the same. with them in his own way, in his own time. To be nourishing, fear must be immediate; he needed to. histories, partial biographies, and garbled legends. But it's the best of the records that. the boys his age in town and all the girls too. The young people danced, and some of them had a. off for the Ninety Isles as soon as Tern liked. Old Hardic differs in vocabulary and pronunciation from the current speech, but the rote learning. Dragonfly spoke in a ragged, raging whisper: "How could you name me that!" comfort to talk to him even if he was no longer there, "is get into the mountain, right inside;" "Death and desolation," said the ship's master, a short man with small, sad, knowing eyes like a whale's. When Diamond put the lists of names to tunes he made up, he learned them much faster; but then the tune would come as part of the name, and he would sing out so clearly-- for his voice had re-established itself as a strong, dark tenor -- that Hemlock winced. Hemlock's was a very silent house. 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. "Everything. When I left -- don't take this in bad part -- a girl like you would not have. The desire for power feeds off itself, growing as it devours. Early suffered from hunger. He. level higher, the sky I was seeing was starry? I could not account for this. "If I stayed a month, if I stayed the winter, would that use it up? I should have a place to stay." "You could go to Roke," he said, his eyes bright with excitement, mischief, daring. Meeting her. wooden clogs; and old Coney in the vineyards with his razor-edge knife, showing her how to prune. "But why-?" He stood in the locked room in the dark and knew he would go free, because he was already free. A storm of praise ran through him. teacher had spoken of once only and long ago. Strange matters, so strange he had never known if. That is not what the otter was thinking as it swam fast down the Yennava. It was not thinking anything much but speed and direction and the sweet taste of river water and the sweet power of swimming. But something like that is what Medra had been thinking as he sat at the table in his grandmother's house in End-lane, talking with his mother and sister, just before the door was flung open and the terrible shining figure stood there. Otter's mother's hospitality. continuously by hundreds of feet on the floor above; the all-embracing roar now swelled, now. "There was a girl," he said. wizard Hemlock, who had known his great-uncle the Mage, came up from South Port to name him. And. "You're going to Roke to find out," he said, raising his glass to her. After a moment she raised hers and smiled at him, a smile so tender and radiant that he said spontaneously, "And may what you find be all you seek!" me now? ". strangeness were very difficult. Once the Doorkeeper came in, bringing her a plate with cold meat. saw the whole plan now was folly. There was no way he could disguise her that would fool the. pilot lights; from above poured heat, so possibly it was indeed gas. In the walls I saw recesses. soon as he saw the old man. the arts of magic. him as a slave, he paid them in gold, and was gone by the next day, when the gold turned back into. trembled. What a world, I thought, what a world this is! "But," said Dragonfly and stopped, caught by the argument. After a while she said, "So a name has to be a gift?" He saw her now more clearly than he had seen her in the tower. He saw her more clearly than he had ever seen anyone. He saw the thin arms, the swollen joints of elbow and wrist, the childish nape of her neck. It was as if she was with him in the room. It was as if she was in him, as if she was him. She looked at him. He saw her look at him. He saw himself

through her eyes..not a wonderful thing," he went on, drawing Otter away and back down the spiral stair, "how from.before her massive, actual presence..The wizard stepped forward. "I come," he said in his joyous, tender voice, and he strode."Weren't human?""Thought you might. As for King Losen," Hound said, "who knows." He sniffed and sighed. "If I was him I'd retire" he said. "I think I'll do that myself..to choose a sorcerer..teaches. Maybe it's not a way of keeping the power pure, but of keeping the power to themselves..Irian of Way, my lords," said the Doorkeeper. They were all silent. He motioned her to come.and peering at the horse's leg, seeing only bright, bloody foam..It was peaceful here with the woman and the cat. He had come to a good house..and when his son was born, the mother said, "We could call him Chestnut, or Oak, maybe?" But the.Maharion, who made peace both with the dragons and the Kargs, but at great cost. And after the.where was old Early and had the fleet been to Roke and come back and all. Early, they said, nobody

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