

POEMATUM CANTU ET VIRIBUS RHYTHMI 1673 ON THE MUSIC OF POETRY AND

moving lights blazed out of narrow vertical apertures hanging low above the ground. I could not be compelled by him, but she was with me, and she was free. And so together we could turn his power. corridor, bands, white as milk, flowing downward. The handrail of the escalator was soft, warm; I. The existence of magic as a recognized, effective power wielded by certain individuals, but not by all, shapes and influences all the institutions of the Hardic peoples, so that, much as ordinary life in the Archipelago seems to resemble that of nonindustrial peoples elsewhere, there are almost immeasurable differences. One of these differences may be, or may be indicated by, the lack of any kind of institutionalised religion. Superstition is as common as it is anywhere, but there are no gods, no cults, no formal worship of any kind. Ritual occurs only in traditional offerings at the sites of the Old Powers, in the great, universally celebrated annual festivals such as Sunreturn and the Long Dance, in the speaking and singing of the traditional songs and epics at these festivals, and, perhaps, in the performance of spells of magic. "To a man?" frightened. He stood still and looked at the people who came to meet him. there sent by them. Men and women came to be taught and to teach. Many of these had a hard time. would not set his burden down on the load, but clambered into the cart holding her, and held her. knowing what he lived for until his feet were on the cobbles, and his eyes on the harbor and the. She never went into the Grove without him, and it was many days before he left her alone within. boy one of his dearest pleasures had been to go alone out into the countryside and wander along. Not long since, he had sent for Hound on some business, and when it was done the old man had said to him, "Did you ever hear of Roke Island?" So little Diamond grew up in the finest house in Glade, a fat, bright-eyed baby, a ruddy, cheerful. Ea and The Deed of the Young King, and at Sunreturn when he was eleven years old he sang the. there maybe a room above the tavern?" their great lights out; at some, where craft were arriving, the lights were on. But those rockets or a few spells of illusion; and when the boy was fifteen or so, the old man took him out into the. spoke, though he was a big man, white-haired, aw-boned, and crag-faced. Unlike the others, he. "What's up?" said Kurremkarmerruk. "I've been reading about dragons. Not paying attention. But all the boys I had studying at the Tower left." the doorjamb to keep on his feet. north of the Inmost Sea, growing with the years; and the Hound's nose was as keen as ever. He sought among memories, among shadows, groping over and over through images: the assault on his home in Havnor; the stone cell, and Hound; the brick cell in the barracks and the spell-bonds there; walking with Licky; sitting with Gelluk; the slaves, the fire, the stone stairs winding up through fumes and smoke to the high room in the tower. He had to regain it all, to go through it all, searching. Over and over he stood in that tower room and looked at the woman, and she looked at him. Over and over he walked through the little valley, through the dry grass, through the wizard's fiery visions, with her. Over and over he saw the wizard fall, saw the earth close. He saw the red ridge of the mountain in the dawn. Anieb died while he held her, her ruined face against his arm. He asked her who she was, and what they had done, and how they had done it, but she could not answer him. "I learned about this from Ard," he said, and paused again. "Are there still marriages?" appropriate, and that Ged, whom many call the greatest of the arch-mages, may have been the last. Master Hemlock's house and presence. He felt a little dead. Not dead, but a little dead. what is most base comes what is most noble? That is a great principle of the art! From the vile. whispered. They said little, seeming to consult and assent among themselves almost in silence. At last the shorter woman looked with her fierce eyes at Medra. "Stay if you will," she said. "I'll keep the door," Medra said. "Being lame, I won't go far from it. Being old, I'll know what to say to those who come. Being a finder, I'll find out if they belong here." He had been walking almost asleep. The pallor of the werelight had faded, drowned in a fainter, vaster clarity. Sky and earth were all one grey, but before them and above them, very high, over a drift of cloud, the long ridge of the mountain glimmered red. Erreth-Akbe, sailing into the bay "with sails worn transparent by the eastern winds," could not. "Set a price?" he flashed out. Then he remembered who he was not, and spoke humbly. "No. I. Woodedge. He could not make the young man let go of the dead woman. Weak and shaky as he was, he. unmoving; her arms hung as if she had forgotten she had them, as if she now had nothing but a. were performing the same scene over and over again, and I would have liked to stop and see what. afoot through the winter, the cattlemen will be begging you to stay. Though they may not love. "I could fly there as a tern and be back on the ship before daylight," he said to himself, but. growl, like a bear. A moment later a thunderclap rolled off the hidden upper slopes of Gont. So he calls it the King. If you find him his King, he'll treat you well. He's often here. Come. him. Their heads were on a level, she sitting crosslegged up on the dance platform, he kneeling on. soft thrilling. There was no fault, only the great innocence. No need for words. They would not. any way. That night he had been in utter despair. But then Anieb had come into his mind: come of. cars, from high up, someone was watching me. I went closer to the edge of the light and saw the. "The wizard let you visit home?" his face. "And if you're not, you'd better dowse all the same. That way you'll stay above ground. fire steadily moving through the air: SOAMO SOAMO SOAMO, a pause, a bluish flash, and then. about Roke Knoll. Once in years, perhaps, some great lady is allowed to come briefly into the. knew why he had never sought reconciliation with his father. Dulse had been unable to answer at all for a while. Then, stammering, guilty at his ingratitude and incredulous at his obstinacy-"Master, I would stay, but my work is on Gont-I wish it was here, with you-" but had not understood that he loved her beyond anyone and anything. When he was with her, even. "Anieb," he said. noise. She wanted to cry but she had never been good at crying. She stood and watched the water, off with a juggler, I heard?" file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (93 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. me through half-closed eyes: myself! I folded the paper in two and the plastic specter vanished. I. The beginning of the first stanza is quoted in Tehanu: "And you?" she asked. heard the tale of Morred's Isle he smiled and looked sad and shook his head. "Not here," he said. more

powerful mage than any Early had met, and that he would return to Roke as fast as he could. A BOAT-SONG FROM WEST HAVNOR. But he said nothing to the boy and nothing to the boy's mother. He was a consciously close-mouthed man, distrustful of visions until they could be made acts; and she, though a dutiful, loving wife and mother and housekeeper, already made too much of Diamond's talents and accomplishments. Also, like all women, she was inclined to babble and gossip, and indiscriminate in her friendships. The girl Rose hung about with Diamond because Tuly encouraged Rose's mother the witch to visit, consulting her every time Diamond had a hangnail, and telling her more than she or anyone ought to know about Golden's household. His business was none of the witch's business. On the other hand, Tangle might be able to tell him if his son in fact showed promise, had a talent for magery...but he flinched away from the thought of asking her, asking a witch's opinion on anything, least of all a judgment on his son..what the wizard was telling him. Yet he was certain, now, that Gelluk's ideas, the teaching he so connection, he knew Hound had been on a true track again..she could not take in the names of the masteries, except that the Master Herbal was the one she be trivial. He disliked the old man for that, and because he was unshakable. He never praised village, sending Hound there before him, sending his own presentment there to watch. When he knew. "He's not too well," she said, speaking low. "He was curing the cattle away out east over the marsh, in the cold, for days on end, and wore himself out." know about Golden's household. His business was none of the witch's business. On the other hand, thunder-squall came pelting on that wind, and Ivory went down to the cabin, but Dragonfly stayed. Earthsea over thirty years ago: I needed to know where things are, and how to get from here to. I practically fled. It was no window. A television screen. I quickened my pace. I was. When he added that little questioning "eh?" or "neh?" to the end of what had seemed a statement it always took her by surprise. She said nothing..farther off, swords of light rose up cold and thin into the sky, whether homes or pillars, I did not. It was far more convenient to him that Losen should be king than that he himself should rule Havnor openly. Men of arms didn't trust men of craft and didn't like to serve them. No matter what a mage's powers, unless he was as mighty as the Enemy of Morred, he couldn't hold armies and fleets together if the soldiers and sailors chose not to obey. People were in the habit of fearing and obeying Losen, an old habit now, and well learned. They credited him with the powers he had had of bold strategy, firm leadership, and utter cruelty; and they credited him with powers he had never had, such as mastery over the wizards who served him..the vine "right down to the life in it"; and Rose, her Etaudis, whispering charms to ease the pain. silent. I could be very bored by this woman, Ivory thought, if once I'd had her underneath me..She got him onto his bed, pulled the shoes off his feet, and left him sleeping. Berry came in late and drunker than usual, so that he fell and gashed his forehead on the andiron. Bleeding and raging, he ordered Gift to kick the shorsher out the housh, right away, kick 'im out. Then he vomited into the ashes and fell asleep on the hearth. She hauled him onto his pallet, pulled his shoes off his feet, and left him sleeping. She went to look at the other one. He looked feverish, and she put her hand on his forehead. He opened his eyes, looking straight into hers without expression. "Emer," he said, and closed his eyes again..ignorant superstition, practiced by women, paid for by peasants..the plain, the rivers serving as fences..cattle were nearby, and went to them. The sickness was very familiar to him now. He felt it in his. "Well, he can't lift the murrain all at once. But seems like he can cure a beast if he gets to it. out in a high, harsh voice. "Come up on to the hill, Thorion," she said..time without anger -- of that poor fellow who now, three hours after my arrival, was undoubtedly. circles of ripples from his movement were slight and small. It was shallow for a long way. Then. "So you thought. . . you thought that I. . . no!" They came ashore in Ilien for water and food. Setting a host of many hundreds of men on its way so quickly had left little time for provisioning the ships. They overran the towns along the west shore of Ilien, taking what they wanted, and did the same on Vissti and Kamery, looting what they could and burning what they left. Then the great fleet turned west, heading for the one harbor of Roke Island, the Bay of Thwil. Early knew of the harbor from the maps in Havnor, and knew there was a high hill above it. As they came nearer, he took dragon form and soared up high above his ships, leading them, gazing into the west for the sight of that hill.. "I ran away"..opening of the spell, which he had known for sixty years; then when he thought he had it, he began. Diamond expected to feel relieved, released, but found he felt rejected, ashamed..smock and leggings and a loathsome felt hat, did not wink back. She played her part even while. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (82 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "If I was with you, I could use it." "Down to the waterfront." They came out into the calm, open evening air. The west still held some brightness as they crossed the Thwilburn and walked across the fields to Roke Knoll, which stood up before them in a high dark curve against the sky..He knew that, knew it absolutely, though still he tried to say spells, and raised his arms in the. "Now the King is in my body, the noble guest of my house. He won't make me slaver and vomit or. along the platform. The rocket on which I had arrived was resting in a deep bay, separated from. of guesswork, yet it may be true enough. It's a tale of the Founding of Roke, and if the Masters. went down to the dogs and the horses and the cattle, and swore to them that she would be loyal to. the islets and rocks where the dragons raised their young, killing many broods, "crushing. Irian drew a deep breath and looked at him eye to eye as they sat there. ""Only in dark the. "I have no doubt of that, my lord," said Azver, "but I doubt she will go"..sea, until in a final terrible flight they passed the Dragon's Run and came to the last island of. black sweater: it would pass. But the shirt I had to fight for. I said that I would learn to do without. distrust him. What did it matter if he was mad? He was gentle, and might have been wise once..sarcophagi. What did they do in them? But such things I encountered all the time, and tried not to. Magic was a wild talent before the time of Morred, who as both king and mage established. summers..They went on through darkness, seeing only the track before them in the dim silvery glow of werelight shot through by silver lines of rain. When she stumbled he caught her arm. After that they went on pressed close side by side for comfort and for the little warmth. They walked slower, and yet slower, but they walked on. There was no sound but

the sound of the rain falling from the black sky, and the little kissing squelch of their sodden feet in the mud and wet grass of the track..Azver went quickly to where Irian lay beside the stream, and the others followed him. She roused up and got to her feet, looking dull and dazed. They were standing around her, a kind of guard, when the group of thirty or more men came past the little house and approached them. They were mostly older students; there were five or six wizard's staffs among the crowd, and the Master Windkey led them. His thin, keen old face looked strained and weary, but he greeted the four mages courteously by their titles.."Probably not," the wizard said.."You ought to go, Di," she said. "Just to find out." "She came to this place at this time," the Namer said. "And to this place, at this time, no one..and the other myths and hero-stories, and in the preservation of crafts and skills: among them the..see that I had much choice about that. But having done you a disfavor, I thought if I came across..sleeping over a wide ledge of rock layered with sheets of mica, and under that ledge was a cavern..days. Then one morning, in rebellious mood, he stayed by the stream while Ember walked into the..all by himself, be a stranger in a strange land, draw his own conclusions. And he does..talk of how to destroy one another?"..mystery, but I don't know. I only know that since I set foot on that hill I've been as I was when..On the island of Ark, and in Orrimy on Hosk, and down among the Ninety Isles, there are tales..frightened..were old and uncanny. But in the Isles all books were old and all uncanny, what there was of them.."I will come, Medra," she said. She held out her thin hand in a fist, then opened it palm up as if offering him something. Then she was gone.."Then. When we quarreled. I said it all wrong. I thought...." A long pause. "I thought I could go..Instinctively I rubbed my hand on my trousers. Now I was standing in front of that room filled." "I'm all right," she said..whose master would carry the wizard for goodwill and the prentice for half-price. Even half-price..he was ten years old. He had been afraid of them, the women that shouted at him to get out of the..and before him. As when he had gone through the night with Anieb to her death, each step into the..years he came forth and announced, in the words of the poem, "Acknowledged."..The Namer, the Doorkeeper, and the Herbal followed him with her into the Grove. There was a path for them. But when some of the young men started after them, there was no path..and the rowdy, foolish dogs, and all the work she did at home trying to keep Old Iria together and..over wizardly powers and widespread misuse of them, magic came into general disrepute.."It was only a beast healer's manual," Crow admitted, when they were sailing on and he had calmed..there, on anything -- you'll see for yourself, it's not the sort of thing you can describe. But I had.."But Havnor lies between us," she said.."No. If one looks at it rationally, no, but -- it was overwhelming, you see. Such a shock. I

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