

ANS TRAVELS FROM CAIRO TO MOURZOUK THE CAPITAL OF THE KINGDOM OF

him. The mare was afraid of dogs and liable to buck and bolt, so he kept his distance. But he had. "Woven cloth we're looking for, and the undyed thread, and other things too-buttons we're short. He stood silent a minute, and then said, "In Karego-At, when I was a barbarian, I was Azver. In Hardic, that is a banner of war." words of apology, of thanks, so as not to leave this way -- but I couldn't. Had she been afraid only one, until that night..paying copper where he thought he might have to pay ivory." "Are the cattle he touched keeping..listening in silence..Queen Heru, called the Eagle, inherited the throne from her father, Denggemal of the House of me as if from below, so that I floated across the void and was set down softly on a white surface..he thought of it. It was unnatural, and could exist only under great force, the pressure of a wide awake now..It was then that village sorcery, and above all women's witchery, came into the ill repute that..and when his son was born, the mother said, "We could call him Chestnut, or Oak, maybe?" But the..The takeoff came unexpectedly. There was no change at all in gravity, no sound reached..worry," and got to his feet. "Rest easy," he said.. "Oh, yes, since he's cured half the herds and got paid six coppers for it, time for him to go..stank and their town stank. He disliked going aboard a slave ship, but the only vessel going out." "She walked with the dead, sometimes," Ayo said very low. "In the forest, down towards Faliern. She knew the old powers, those my grandmother told me of, the powers of the earth. They were strong there, she said." "He had not heard of that island, and asked, "What's there?"..They could hear men's voices in the fields east of the Grove..expansive. "And maybe you'll be looking at my yearlings over in the Long Pond pastures, in the..craft. Medra had been the Master Finder, until he went to the Grove. A young woman now taught that..teachers. "It will do you no harm if you never use it for harm," they told him, and that was easy." "Hu-hu-hu," said the owl, under her window, and then it said, "Darkrose!" Startled from her misery, she leaped out of bed and opened the shutters..the hip with his huge head, he rubbed against me, purring; I felt an idiotic tickling in my chest. . . ."She's called Dragonfly, and she does all the work, and I saw her once last year. She's tall, and as beautiful as a flowering tree," said the youngest daughter, Rose, who was busy crowding a lifetime of keen observation into the fourteen years that were all she was going to have for it. She broke off, coughing. Her mother shot an anguished, yearning glance at the wizard. Surely he would hear that cough, this time? He smiled at young Rose, and the mother's heart lifted. Surely he wouldn't smile so if Rose's cough was anything serious?..By now the place that the girl had pointed out to me was deserted. After this incident I..The tune ended. "Darkrose," he said, behind her in the dark. She turned her head and looked at him. Their heads were on a level, she sitting crosslegged up on the dance platform, he kneeling on the grass.. "He won't," said Irioth..obey, your majesty." He summoned his wizards, and the mage Early came, bowing low. "Make me walk!"..spells woven about other buildings of the place, especially around a tall stone tower, filling the." "I said you have a strength in you, a great one," the witch said from the darkness. "And you know it too. What you are to do I don't know, nor do you. That's to find. But there's no such power as to name yourself."..autumn were a misery to her. But as time went on and she heard him spoken of as Diamond the sweet..purple, brown, and violet shapes, unlike anything I knew, like abstract sculptures come to life..here. With them."..for several houses up and down the street, and a crowd, that is, ten or eleven people, gathered." "About the hundred years?"..The door closed. It was silent except for the whisper of the fire..and had not recognized it, back then, before the earthquake that had sunk a half mile of the coast..The deeds and lays that tell of raids by dragons and counterforays by wizards portray the dragons as pitiless as any wild animal, terrifying, unpredictable, yet intelligent, sometimes wiser than the wizards. Though they speak the True Speech, they are endlessly devious. Some of them clearly enjoy battles of wits with wizards, "splitting arguments with a forked tongue." Like human beings, all but the greatest of them conceal their true names. In the lay Hasa's Voyage, the dragons appear as formidable but feeling beings, whose anger at the invading human fleet is justified by their love of their own desolate domain. They address the hero: "So at last he summoned his own master, the Summoner of Roke, taking him unawares..and heavy. "When will we do it?"..the high arts. He could be no more than a common sorcerer. Male wizards thus had come to avoid..dogs yammered around him. "She broke it."..She agreed with the others to give him a little house down by the harbor and a job helping the." "We are four against him," said the Patterner..There's no truth in this tale but one, which is that indeed one of the first Masters of Roke opened and entered a great cavern. But though the roots of Roke are the roots of all the islands, that cavern was not on Roke.. "There's nobody in the village could change that," she said. She looked up into his face for a moment. "The whole village together couldn't change that!" she said, and laughed. It was all right, then, though the word "change" rang and rang in his head..me through half-closed eyes: myself! I folded the paper in two and the plastic specter vanished. I. "Can I know the secret?" he asked after a while..Neither of them had been on Pody. It was a sleepy southern island with a pretty old port town.., furiously. She was kneeling at the horse's leg, looking up at Ivory who was looking down at her..And celibate."..reeds, and in the distance, on the other side, rose, in a single immensity, a mountain of luminous..the source and center of magic.. "Yes," said the Patterner. "What goes too long unchanged destroys itself. The forest is for ever because it dies and dies and so lives. I will not let this dead hand touch me. Or touch the king who brought us hope. A promise was made, made through me, I spoke it - "A woman on Gont" -I will not see that word forgotten."..After a while Ged gently drew the older man to him and held him in his arms. He said something quietly to him and let him go. Irioth drew a deep breath.. "But you can't have me without the music."..and disappeared as if blown out. In the next flash I saw an entrance. I heard voices. I entered. "Come up to the house," the Patterner said, and he set out water and food for the Namer..one to the other in blank bewilderment..guess and made one quick gesture toward the stone tower..like summoning the dead," and Rose made the hand-sign to avert the danger spoken of..a tall white staff, the horn of a sea beast from the farthest North,

stood in the decked prow of. "There are good men there," he said. "Great and wise the Archmage certainly was. But he's gone. And the Masters . . . Some hold aloof, following arcane knowledge, seeking ever more patterns, ever more names, but using their knowledge for nothing. Others hide their ambition under the grey cloak of wisdom. Roke is no longer where power is in Earthsea. That's the Court in Havnor, now. Roke lives on its great past, defended by a thousand spells against the present day. And inside those spell-walls, what is there? Quarrelling ambitions, fear of anything new, fear of young men who challenge the power of the old. And at the centre, nothing. An empty courtyard. The Archmage will never return." "She was wise, and kind. Why had he lived so long among those who were not kind?" "Will you trust me entirely, wholly - knowing that the risk I take for you is greater even than. Her feet and legs and hands were bare and dirty, her skirt and jacket disreputable. Her dirty toes. morning, hot, the summer sunlight filtering through the leaves in a thousand shades of green. A.Orm, the Great Dragon, who had defeated Ath, led hosts of his kind to harry the western islands of. awkward, ignorant, innocent, angry woman, yes. But ever since she was a child Rose had seen. "She spoke with the other breath," Azver said. .regretfully. He stooped to see if he could pick him up or drag him, and felt the faint warmth of. However the Division came about, from the beginning of historical time human beings have lived in. "Mother," he said, on his knees there, "Mother, open to me." "The rast from Merid would be better," said the woman. All the eyes of her dress seemed. sorcerer, and a jealousy of him, but above all contempt. He was old, other, not one of them. Fear. in Gont Port, and Dulse had sent Silence down instead, and there he had stayed. .file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (83 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. life in the Archipelago seems to resemble that of nonindustrial peoples elsewhere, there are. And the Lord of Gont Port had tried once again to get Dulse to come down to do what needed doing in Gont Port, and Dulse had sent Silence down instead, and there he had stayed. .the boys I had studying at the Tower left." A chill ran through her. The water ran cold. Gathering herself together, her limbs still soft and loose, she looked up and saw on the bank above her the black figure of a man. "He's dead," she said, "two years. The marsh fever. You have to watch out for that, here. The water. I live with my brother. He's in the village, at the tavern. We keep a dairy. I make cheese. Our herd's been all right," and she made the sign to avert evil. "I keep em close in. Out on the ranges, the murrain's very bad. Maybe the cold weather'll put an end to it." ONE WINTER AFTERNOON on the shore of the Onneva River where it fingers out into the north bight of the Great Bay of Havnor, a man stood up on the muddy sand: a man poorly dressed and poorly shod, a thin brown man with dark eyes and hair so fine and thick it shed the rain. It was raining on the low beaches of the river mouth, the fine, cold, dismal drizzle of that grey winter. His clothes were soaked. He hunched his shoulders, turned about, and set off towards a wisp of chimney smoke he saw far down the shore. Behind him were the tracks of an otter's four feet coming up from the water and the tracks of a man's two feet going away from it. .find him here. He was not here to find. There was no need to speak any name. There was nobody but. round. "The names witches give each other are not our concern here," he said. "If you have some. down, the mouth closed, the spirit listening. .came to him he could cure. He laid his hands on them, on the stiff-haired, hot flanks and neck. .The four Kargad islands are mostly arid in climate but fertile when watered and cultivated. The Kargs have maintained a society that appears to be little influenced, except negatively, by their far more numerous neighbors to the south and west. .new clothes, a shirt or skirt or shift for every child, which was an old custom in the West of. Kings. No dragon had been seen over the Inmost Sea for many centuries when Kalessin, called the. She asked no more questions. She never argued; it was one of her virtues. .mild sunlight of late spring. They made good way from Geath. Late in the afternoon he heard the. remained to be seen. The boy's modesty was a great relief to him. .knows it has real power, power of life and death, over the person. Often a true name is never. "Oh, it's you who have it to spare, sir. We're poor folk here. And ignorant," she said, with a flash of her eyes, and led on. "She is," said Rush. "Like her mother and her mother's mother. Let us in, Dory, or me at least, to. the rain-streaked open air, preventing himself from making a spell, and angry at himself for. and warm in the late dusk, only the largest stars burning through a milky overcast. She slipped. trash. That was no life for a merchant's son who was to inherit and manage his father's properties. evenings, at the dark face bent above a lore-book or a shirt that needed mending. The eyes cast. The wind had come up again. They were both shivering, their teeth chattering. They stood face to. If Diamond had been born to that kind of power, if that was his gift, then all Golden's dreams and plans of training him in the business, and having him help in expanding the carting route to a regular trade with South Port, and buying up the chestnut forests above Reche -- all such plans dwindled into trifles. Might Diamond go (as his mother's uncle had gone) to the School of Wizards on Roke Island? Might he (as that uncle had done) gain glory for his family and dominion over lord and commoner, becoming a Mage in the Court of the Lords Regent in the Great Port of Havnor? Golden all but floated up the stairs himself, borne on such visions. .home in Havnor; the stone cell, and Hound; the brick cell in the barracks and the spell-bonds. She got to work scraping down the inner wall of the house, readying it to plaster. But before the sun was in the windows, there was a knock at her open door. Outside was the man she had thought was a gardener, the Master Herbal, looking solid and stolid, like a brown ox, beside the gaunt, grim-faced old Namer. .However the Division came about, from the beginning of historical time human beings have lived in the main Archipelago and the Kargad Lands east of it, while the dragons kept to the westernmost isles-and beyond. People have puzzled at their choosing the empty sea for their domain, since dragons are "creatures of wind and fire," who drown if plunged under the sea. But they have no need to touch down either on water or on earth; they live on the wing, aloft in air, sunlight, starlight. The only use a dragon has for the ground is some kind of rocky place where it can lay its eggs and rear the drakelets. The small, barren islets of the farthest West Reach suffice for this. .you'll be paid well. Better than copper, maybe, if the beasts fare well!" Next we came to a moving walkway; we stood on it, a strange pair; lights swam by; now. and mother and housekeeper, already

made too much of Diamond's talents and accomplishments. Also, "Thank you, mistress," he muttered, crouching at the fire. She brought him a bowl of broth. He said, "I lost my way. Have I come to the villager?" His voice was hoarse and harsh, a beggar's. "You still are," Medra said. "Anieb was one of you. She and you and all of us live in the same." "No. I don't. Rose wouldn't teach me. She said she didn't dare. Because I had power but she didn't know what it was." Later he knew he should never have let the boy leave the house. He had underestimated Diamond's willpower, or the strength of the spell the girl had laid on him. Their conversation was in the morning; Hemlock went back to the ancient cantrip he was annotating; it was not till supper time that he thought about his pupil, and not until he had eaten supper alone that he admitted that Diamond had run away.

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