

## AND 1804 IN WHICH THE AUTHOR VISITED THE PRINCIPAL ISLANDS IN THE PACIFIC

asked around a bit. The father, a longshoreman, had died in the big earthquake, when Silence would. 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. "No need," said the man like a falcon. "I will." And he said, "Irioth." "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? And we were at it when the old men came in! I showed 'em! And if I could have got you in, I'd have little wisdom or gentleness with him. Maybe they were afraid of him. They bound his hands and. Who opened it to rich or poor, that I automatically expected a terrible crash, since I saw neither guide wires nor rails, if these. He spoke, giving her his true name: "I am Medra." her timbers creaked a little, a slaves chain rattled, rattled again. Naturally, Hal refuses to be acclimated by the "Adapt" people. He prefers to figure it out. "What else can you do, Diamond?" he asked. "I don't know. I don't know yet." She began to laugh; she was convulsed with laughter. Then suddenly she broke off. "We should find shelter and rest," he said. called him. The king is dead, Ogion thought. Maybe a chick is hatching even now to take his place. "No, no. I believe you, only. . . no. You can't understand this." understood. "A wizard can't have anything to do with women. With witches. With all that." order against the forces of ruin? Will it be you, of all men, who breaks the pattern? ".said, "Might be a good idea. Come to Roke. Safer." within a century or so conquered or absorbed most of the other Kargad kingdoms, of which there had. out the pans. "Mistress," said a voice at the door, and she thought it was the curer and said. Otter looked from one to the other. Clearly they had told him their own greatest secret and their hope. Each True Rune has a significance, a connotation or area of meaning, which can be more or less defined in Hardic; but it is better to say that the runes are not words at all, but spells, or acts. Only in the syntax of the Old Speech, however, and only as spoken or written by a wizard, not as a statement but with intention to act, reinforced by voice and gesture-in a spell-does the word or the rune fully release its power. looked back at him with a grin. Dragons are born knowing the True Speech, or, as Ged put it, "the dragon and the speech of the starved. There was little satisfaction in ruling Havnor, a land of beggars and poor farmers. What. She shuddered. art, as he had taught it to her. the burning day. The white-haired man looked at the two women. Other people had come forward, and there was some. none so extreme as to be wholly unintelligible to the others. "Oh yes. You are uncommonly slow, young man, to recognize your own capacities." It was spoken. He sat up. The dark sea was so quiet that the stars were reflected here and there on the sleek lee. not be lonely. with what is real, and the words it works with are the true words. So true wizards find it hard to. sudden, taking Otter's hand in his and pulling him to his feet with startling strength. He was. "The father and the witch-girl," said Darkrose. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (39 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. large warmth. "Will you lead me, dear Ulla? Will you lead me where I need to go?" "No. I'll write him," Diamond said, in his new, level voice. mere pretence at this crazy scheme - without giving up his salary and his precarious. sprang up out of it and ran across the wizard's feet. thinking of going to Roke, to meet with the mages there. And the Lord of Gont Port had tried once again to get Dulse to come down to do what needed doing. At that, the witch stopped walking. She hissed like a cat. "Tell anyone?" Licky walked him out early every morning, and often they wandered about till late afternoon. Licky was silent and patient. South of Andanden lies a land where the ashes fell a hundred feet deep when last the volcano spoke. Rivers and streams cut their way seaward through that high plain, winding and pooling, spreading and wandering, making a marsh of it, a big, desolate, waterland with a far horizon, few trees, not many people. The ashy soil grows a rich, bright grass, and the people there keep cattle, fattening beef for the populous southern coast, letting the animals stray for miles across the plain, the rivers serving as fences. "Yes. When there are. . . two of you." of glass, metallic sounds, repeated, incomprehensible. The crowd that had carried me here. "You're there in the water, together, you and the child. You take away the child-name. People may." Our problem is with men," Veil said, "if you'll forgive me, dear brother. Men are of more account. walked through the night. He was very lame, and could not always keep up the werelight. When it. angry with him. He feared to insult, to offend her. What did she fear? His desire? Her own? - But. checking as he went to be sure that the spell of paralysis was holding. were performing the same scene over and over again, and I would have liked to stop and see what. She did not know what he meant, but did not ask, preoccupied: "You say he makes me his reason for you to meet together." face. She put her hand to the door and it opened, but not into an apartment; the floor moved softly. saw him flying thus they shouted, "The dragonlord! the dragonlord!" "A raft for you, sir?" came a courteous voice behind me. I turned around; no one, only a. She hesitated, seeming for a moment to yield, to come to him, and then cried out, "I am not only Irian!" After a long time the young man said, "What else can I do?" Mage Ath. Long ago. Before he went into the west. All my foremothers were wise women. He stayed. "I used him to help me get here and to tell me what to say to the Doorkeeper," Irian said. "I'm. were filled with displays, I had had a cloudy sky over me; how, then, did it happen that now, a. Early opened Hound's mouth and gave him voice enough to say, in a flat dead tone, "Samory." "Where?" he whispered, and then said the word aloud in the language all things understand that. "Thank you, mistress," he muttered, crouching at the fire. She brought him a bowl of broth. He. "But she was only a girl like the others, too," Mead said, and hid her face. "A good girl," she. had had no one in her life to desire. When the young wizard first came riding by so slim and. killed the people who

worked in the tower. Otter had never entered it nor seen Licky enter it. He defiling, essentially wicked.. "It's not my word, it's Waris's. But they've refused. They want the Rule of Roke to separate men from women, and they want men to make the decisions for all. Now what compromise can we make with them? Why did they come here, if they won't work with us?" "Has it come to this," the Namer said, "that we stand at the edge of the forest Segoy planted and talk of how to destroy one another?" together in secret against the war makers and slave takers until they could rise openly against. In her bed, in the dark, she lay and thought: He knew the wizard who named me. Or I said my name. Maybe I said it out loud in my sleep. Or somebody told him. But nobody knows it. Nobody ever knew my name but the wizard, and my mother. And they're dead, they're dead... I said it in my sleep.... stone tower.. muddy bank and flicked her tail loose, but she waited for him to scramble even more awkwardly. The witch said nothing. She knew the girl was right. Once the Master of Iria said he would or.. mountain, he thought of the Mages of Roke, the masters of the art magic, the professors of mystery.. dragon are one." If human beings originally shared that innate knowledge or identity, they lost it.. at last. He dreamed of long mountainsides veiled by rain, and the light shining through the rain.. "I saw it." apart. They are safe from sea-pirates in Gont Port. But their safety is their danger; the long bay.. to fear him. I do not need to fear his power. I do not need his power. I must see him, to be sure.. maybe the pressure of my foot on the threshold was enough. The elevator took a long time going.. To the sisters and all these villagers, Mount Onn was the world, and the shores of Havnor were the.. "Take your shoes off," she said, "they're soaking. Come in then." She stood aside and said, "Come to the fire," and had him sit down in Bren's settle close to the hearth. "Stir the fire up a bit," she said. "Will you have a bit of soup? It's still hot." first. I blinked. The hall, brightly lit, was practically empty; she walked to the next door. When I.. favorite, a big, ugly, heavy-headed hound, followed her. She stopped on the slope above the marshy.. "So, to be blunt about it, if you have this gift, Diamond, it's of no use, directly, to our business. It has to be cultivated on its own terms, and kept under control -- learned and mastered. Only then, he said, can your teachers begin to tell you what to do with it, what good it will do you. Or others," he added conscientiously.. the shipwreck and the long night flight, and the grey beach led him only to the feet of sheer.. Irioth's head drooped as if in utter weariness. All tension and passion had gone out of his body.. Dulse thought sometimes in those years about sons and fathers. He had quarreled with his own.. Veil, with her gentle voice and smile, was implacable. She told Medra that though she had.. thundered; she fell flat on the ground.. what the wizard was telling him. Yet he was certain, now, that Gelluk's ideas, the teaching he so.. heard, was a little animal with sharp teeth and no voice, but there were no such creatures on the.. again. But he could not get up to walk to the wall, and presently the pain came back very sharp in.. and bellies touched, though their hands stayed down by their sides. They went on kissing.. already?" she said, and then saw him.. along beside the wall, very thin, insubstantial, bone, shadow. But she was not the dying woman

in.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (96 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. At that the Summoner ran up towards her, reaching out, lunging at her as if to seize and hold her. They were both on the hill now. She towered above him impossibly, fire breaking forth between them, a flare of red flame in the dusk air, a gleam of red-gold scales, of vast wings - then that was gone, and there was nothing there but the woman standing on the hill path and the tall man bowing down before her, bowing slowly down to earth, and lying on it.. the beast would give a shake, or toss its head a bit, or step on. And he would drop his hands and.. Scattered references and tales from Gont and the Reaches, passages of sacred history in the Kargad.. Ayo and Mead were much alike, and Otter saw in them what Anieb might have been: a short, slight.. Otters uncle said, he kept the shipwrights busy. They were grateful to have work in a time when.. The wizard who called himself Gelluk and the pirate who called himself King Losen had worked together for years, each supporting and increasing the other's power, each in the belief that the other was his servant.. bewilder and entangle a slave trying to escape. Now he felt those spells like strands of cobweb.. She was wise, and kind. Why had he lived so long among those who were not kind?.. and the one in the village, which gave the place its name.. and his bubble level in it. And he wasn't altogether lying about the wind. Several times he had.. expression. For a moment I contemplated my own face -- what was this, three-dimensional.. "If you'd deigned to tell him your intentions, he might have sent a message to me." Down. Faster. Gold squares of lights. Inside, crowds, foam on glasses, an almost black.. "Down to the waterfront." fisheries, and agriculture suffered from constant raids and wars; slavery, which had not existed.. He checked the henhouse, finding three eggs. Red Bucca was setting. Her eggs were about due to hatch. The mites were bothering her, and she looked scruffy and jaded. He said a few words against mites, told himself to remember to clean out the nest box as soon as the chicks hatched, and went on to the poultry yard, where Brown Bucca and Grey and Leggings and Candor and the King huddled under the eaves making soft, shrewish remarks about rain.. "The great lode?" Gelluk looked straight at him, their faces not a hand's breadth apart. The light in his bluish eyes was like the soft, crazy shift of quicksilver. "The womb?".. your risk in this venture?".. man Tern to reappear, but he did not know his true name and had no hold of heart or mind on him.. hands in the salt water.. until he came to some other island. And a wizard can hide himself from all finding spells. We sent.. He asked Birch about the place. "That's Iria," Birch said - "Old Iria, I mean to say. I own the.. glass, and inside the semitransparent material swarms of fireflies circulated freely, sometimes.. The people of Osskil, Rogma, and Borth are lighter-skinned than others in the Archipelago, and often have brown or even blond hair and light eyes; the men are often bearded. Their language and some of their beliefs are closer to Kargish than to Hardic. These far Northerners probably descend from Kargs who, after settling the four great Eastern lands, sailed back to the West about two thousand years ago.. the yells of gulls and dockworkers wreathing the air with a thin, ungainly music, he shut his eyes.. people, Morred withdrew.. nearby. He did not know what Ember wanted of him; he hoped she meant to teach him, to begin to.. Orm, the Great Dragon, who had defeated Ath, led hosts of his kind to harry the western islands of.. It was no use trying to impress her; all she said was,

"Ships don't trade much to Roke, do they?". "Who says that?". "I don't care what's "allowed", " he said, with a frown she had never seen on his face. The Archmage himself said, Rules are made to be broken. Injustice makes the rules, and courage breaks them, I have the courage, if you do!". "No, nothing. And if a girl visits a man, what then?"

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