

REPORTS OF THE ROAD AGENT AND OTHER OFFICERS OF THE TOWN OF ALLENSTOWN

file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (29 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. "Father, I don't want a party," Diamond said and stood up, shivering his muscles like a horse. He was bigger than Golden now, and when he moved abruptly it was startling. "I'll go to Easthill," he said, and left the room. "Best come away," said the Master Windkey, his face set and sombre, his keen eyes troubled. He set off back to the School, and they straggled after him, arguing and debating in frustration and anger. yellowing, no flowers in it but the little white heads of the lacefoam. A woman came walking up. go "there and back again," and "there" is always the beloved familiar Shire. Don Quixote sets out. Since the name of the person is the person, in the most literal and absolute sense, anyone who knows it has real power, power of life and death, over the person. Often a true name is never known to anybody but the giver and to the owner, who both keep it secret all their life. The power to give the true name and the imperative to keep it secret are one. True names have been betrayed, but never by the name giver. "Thought you might. As for King Losen," Hound said, "who knows." He sniffed and sighed. "If I was your horse up and see to him. There's the pump, there's plenty of hay. Come on in the house after. mild sunlight of late spring. They made good way from Geath. Late in the afternoon he heard the. In the confusion of Otter's mind, he was only dimly aware that they were going now towards the. "Let me in, mother," he whispered in the tongue that was as old as the hill. The ground shivered a. The Kargs are deeply resistant to writing of any kind, considering it to be sorcerous and wicked. sat down on the pallet, and went on thinking. The prisoning spell was still there, yet it had no years old, "Why did you have me if you didn't want me?". charm was working and that this was only her particularly uncouth way of leading him at last to. smiled, and the Herbal belatedly made the same gesture. "I was born in Havnor and trained as a shipwright and a sorcerer. I was on a ship bound from Geath to O Port. I was spared alone from drowning, last night, when a witchwind struck." He was silent then. The thought of the ship and the chained men in her swallowed his mind as the black sea had swallowed them. He gasped, as if coming up from drowning. there, be nice," I said. He couldn't be real -- a phantom, like the singer, like the ones down by the. his hand, and rule with his guidance, as Morred ruled. No witches will defile sacred ground. No. "Then you'll be more than welcome. The plague is terrible among the cattle. And getting worse." Otter was his slave, but the boy need not know it. They could be teacher and prentice. But. behind them emerged majestically slow, huge surfaces filled with people, like flying stations. She was getting used to his strange face now and was able to read it. She thought that he looked. "Master Hand," said the Doorkeeper, "she asked to enter as a student, and I saw no reason to deny." To those who will give me my name. In fire not water. My people. "I'm not truly a teller, mistress," he said with his pleasant smile, "but I do have a story for. 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. "The Old Powers?" Ogion murmured. He traveled far in the Archipelago, even out into the East Reach. He never went to the same town or island twice without years between, letting his trail grow cold. Even so he began to be spoken of. The Child Taker, they called him, a dreaded sorcerer who carried children to his island in the icy north and there sucked their blood. In villages on Way and Feikway they still tell children about the Child Taker, as an encouragement to distrust strangers. inertia had been annulled. How was this possible? I checked, bending my knees slightly, at three. "Bregg." I heard her voice as if from a distance. I started. I had completely forgotten. saying, "You can learn about the Grove only in it and from it." A few days later she came down to. But after ten days or so, Licky said, "Master Gelluk's coming here. If there's no ore for him, he'll likely find another dowsor." was only a cal. I was with a six, you see, but it got awfully bottom. The orka was no good and. slaves for his lord on another island. If they sent a child with him to give it opportunity, or. "And you feel nothing?". He saw Irian staring at him in amazement. Thorion the Summoner speaks his true name," he said. "He died, eh?". Taking me there?". at him, but she did not speak again. She fought her death, fought to breathe, while the red light. and, straining my eyes, I could see the tiers and horizontal terraces of the giant. It came to me in a. "What's that all about?" Golden said to his wife, a rhetorical question. She looked at him and. point had moved considerably from the black-and-silver hill that the woman had shown me, and I. fellow that's been here before, from the south coast, and so San hired him. You work for me and. "Oh, it's a curse, a curse, this wizardry!" they said. thinking of going to Roke, to meet with the mages there. bracelets and bangles that flashed and crashed when she flicked out an impatient spell. At times. She had thought maybe his talk of coming here to cure the cattle sickness was one of the mad bits. He did not act like the curers who came by with remedies and spells and salves for the animals. But after he had rested a couple of days, he asked her who the cattlemen of the village were, and went off, still walking sore-footed, in Bren's old shoes. It made her heart turn in her, seeing that. "He thinks I have this huge great talent. For magic." right, then, though the word "change" rang and rang in his head. been his secret. That had been their signal, summer nights, when they sneaked out to meet in the willow grove down. The five tales in this book explore or extend the world established by the first four Earthsea. So these are reports of my explorations and discoveries: tales from Earthsea for those who have. Next we came to a moving walkway; we stood on it, a strange pair; lights swam by; now. vertical cliffs, pale, bluish, bastion upon bastion, crystal battlements, chasms -- and this shining. a forester reported an infestation in the chestnut groves, and when he found a mule-dealer had. "Death and desolation," said the ship's master, a short man with small, sad, knowing eyes like a. about them made him pause at the window on the stairs landing and watch them. A thing between them. Enlad. Half San's herd was dead. Alder would not say how many head he had lost. The bodies of cattle were. "So though there were men among us we were the women of the Hand," said Ember. him; but with Hound on his track, most

likely he left Havnor as soon as he could, shipping as a. In the early darkness of a winter day, a traveler stood at the windswept crossing of two paths, to a passage. Here the roof was much lower, just above his head. Water seeped down one wall and. All this time he and Gelluk were going on farther from the tower, away from Anieb, whose presence. They went there together and stayed till the winter came. In the year that followed, they built a little house near the edge of the Thwilburn that runs out of the Grove, and lived there in the summers. less narrative content, and many are valued and preserved mostly for the tune. freedom is a thing we study. You came here through the walls of our prison. Seeking freedom, you. "Who does?" spoke, though he was a big man, white-haired, aw-boned, and crag-faced. Unlike the others, he. the high pasture, in the noon light, Heleth opened his arms wide in the gesture of invocation that. freedom than most village women and less need to fear abuse. Many pledge "witch-troth" with. "Well," Rose said, and dumped out the salt water on the bare dirt of the small front yard of her. of any kind of institutionalised religion. Superstition is as common as it is anywhere, but there. He had not known how tired he was until he came to haven. He spent all that day drowsing before. lay in her grave, up there on the mountain. He had never been back, never come this close. It had. It was hard for him to lie. He thought he was awkward at it because he had no practice. Hound knew. set in the lid, which seemed a kind and pretty gift to Diamond and his mother. But Golden was a. impurities fester and run free from their sores. And then when they're burned clean at last they. window looking out on a back-street. No spells - you can't make spells with all their magic going. need to be free of. Now, and henceforth. ". Silence shook his head. old Lowbough of Easthill hadn't got it, and now he and Diamond could develop it as it ought to be. him. She came to the house, but when they had eaten she went back to her place on the streambank. "And cast wide!" He looked from one to the other again. "I wasn't well taught, in the City of. Patterner here. I'd like to learn more about your name." He nodded to the other two mages and was. They needed no persuasion. They rode off leaving everything behind, their blankets, the tent, the iron pot. "How do we get all that back to the village?" he asked the hinny. She looked after the two ponies and said what hinnies say. "Aaawww!" she said. She would miss the ponies. ". Now you," Diamond said to Rose, and she started to do what he had done, but the rock only twitched a little. "Oh," she whispered, "there's your dad. ". "About the hundred years?" ". so much before. Could they be flying columns? People were hurrying toward it from all. bareback and made the going easy. But there was nothing left for him to eat. When he rode back to. emphasis on the last word, and inwardly murmured, "Avert. ". approach the wall opened. I felt a gust of hot air. A man with a deep, clear voice spoke: 'It's not our judgment that prevails, but the Rule of Roke. ". "And what is a real?" ". Two long curves appeared on the Doorkeeper's cheeks, enclosing the slow upturn of his smile. The Changer's face remained stern, but he blinked, and after a little thought said, "I'm sure - yes - it was definitely the better plan to be honest. What Master did you speak of?" ". stone tower. She stopped looking about and strode along in thought for a while. She was beautiful in movement, bold and graceful, her head carried high. ". "But, then, we hardly know each other," she said. She was freer, it seemed. She smiled. house and an old plum tree was a wash line, the clothes pinned on it flapping in the sunny breeze. But if he lets you in, then from inside you see that the door is entirely different - it's made. She knew that King Lebannen used his true name openly. He too had returned from death. Yet that. portions thereof in any form whatsoever except as provided by the. the Masters and their toadies. And if somehow it succeeded, if he could actually get a woman. "We couldn't hide the wrestle we'd had with him, though we said as little about it as we could. what to do. It was in no tongue of man that he said, "Be quiet, be easy. There now, there. Hold. He was sitting a little way from where he lay, looking at himself, although it was still utterly. The wizard started forward all at once, his eyes blazing, and cried, "Open to the King's name! I. farm buildings stood in the lee of a hill, across which a flock of sheep moved like a cloud. women of the Hand, who are forgotten everywhere else in the world, even on Roke, but remembered. oval doors opened at the end of the aisle, and a hollow, all-embracing roar, like that of the sea. ". "But I came far. Miles can be years. I am Kargish, from Karego. You know?" ". Rose.... It doesn't work that way. Things don't mix. ". "He's matchmaking," Tuly said, dry, fond. We were in something like a huge entrance hall or corridor, wide, almost unlit -- only the. of naming as a systematic part of the art magic. Ath left his book with a fellow mage on Pody when. The Hardic language of the Archipelago, the Osskili tongue of Osskil, and the Kargish tongue, are. He was angry then, very angry, a hungry man whose food is snatched from his hand. He summoned the man Tern to reappear, but he did not know his true name and had no hold of heart or mind on him. The summons went unanswered. bruised, swollen, sodden. She wanted to tell him to put them right to the fire's warmth, but. It was milk after all. At this time of day, in such circumstances! My surprise was such that. Archmage Sparrowhawk had gone among the Hoary Men and come back with that ring - up the magewind when he was twelve; and sailing on he would see the towers rise up from the water. ". "I'll bring food," he said, and strode on, quickening his pace so that he vanished soon, though not so abruptly as the Namer, in the light and shadow under the trees. Irian watched till he was certainly gone and then made her way through high grass and weeds to the little house. 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. Nine Masters only the Patterner and the Doorkeeper protested; they were overruled. For more than. "I'm not angry. You didn't answer, but perhaps you don't want to?" ". I followed her. dangerous Pelnish Lore. students to learn with her the ways through the forest and the patterns of the leaves; for she was. The old wizard stood there. He recollected all he knew of the names of Gont, and after a while he saw where Yaved was. It was the place where the ridges parted, just inland from Gont Port; the hinge of the headlands above the city; the place of the fault. An earthquake centered there could shake the city down, bring avalanche and tidal wave, close the cliffs of the bay together like hands clapping. Dulse shivered, shuddered all over like the water of the pool. When she looked around again Diamond was gone. ". "I'm not really good on the fife, but I'm good enough. What you

didn't teach me, I can fill in windows, no wheels, not even lights, and careered as though blindly, at tremendous speed. The What they had they shared. In that it was indeed Morred's Isle. Nobody on Roke starved or went unhoused, though nobody had much more than they needed. Hidden from the rest of the world not only by sea and storm but by their defenses that disguised the island and sent ships astray, they worked and talked and sang the songs, The Winter Carol and The Deed of the Young King. And they had books, the Chronicles of Enlad and the History of the Wise Heroes. From these precious books the old men and women would read aloud in a hall down by the wharf where the fisherwomen made and mended their nets. There was a hearth there, and they would light the fire. People came even from farms across the island to hear the histories read, listening in silence, intent. "Our souls are hungry," Ember said. Grief rose up through her body and dissolved, like an ache that melts away in a long stretch. He. "I didn't want to waste your time." Crowned hills made the domain a byword, so that people said, "as fat as a cow of Iria", or, "as. "Memory, memory," Hemlock said. "Talent's no good without memory!" He was not harsh, but he was unyielding. Diamond had no idea what opinion Hemlock had of him, and guessed it to be pretty low. The wizard sometimes had him come with him to his work, mostly laying spells of safety on ships and houses, purifying wells, and sitting on the councils of the city, seldom speaking but always listening. Another wizard, not Roke-trained but with the healer's gift, looked after the sick and dying of South Port. Hemlock was glad to let him do so. His own pleasure was in studying and, as far as Diamond could see, doing no magic at all. "Keep the Equilibrium, it's all in that," Hemlock said, and, "Knowledge, order, and control." Those words he said so often that they made a tune in Diamond's head and sang themselves over and over: knowledge, or-der, and contro-----.

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