

## CAPTAIN JANUARY

The evil reputation magic had gained during the Dark Time, however, continued to cling to many of. She looked at him in the starlight, and said, "Tell me your name - not your true name - only what I can call you. When I think of you." "When he passed me," she said in a low voice, "I saw a grave." "gift, you know." Gelluk stood tense and trembling, still at a loss. "Turres," he said, after a time, almost in a. the old man laid his hand a moment on the son's shoulder. They walked without light except for the faint werelight Gelluk sent before them. They went. After a little silence Otter said, "Thanks." And he looked up at Hound, one brief, questioning. "The password he will ask you for is your true name." I jumped back; the possessor of the voice, the fat one with the cap, appeared. I went to. he said this. It was not what he had meant to say. The roof of the cavern was far above him. The trickle of water dripping from the mica ledge glittered in short dashes in the werelight. movement of my nostrils, my heart working slowly, pumping blood; lights flickered in the low. "My Lord Patterner, will you defy our Rule and our community, that has been one so long, upholding." "She can lodge in the town," the Changer said, with some relief. She stood up. And I got up from my horribly low chair. lifelong. Her mother Ayo and her mother's sister Mead were wise women. They healed Otter as best they could with warm oils and massage, herbs and chants. They talked to him and listened when he talked. Neither of them had any doubt but that he was a man of great power. He denied this. "I could have done nothing without your daughter," he said. "But you're right, Herbal, we're out of balance," said Kurremkarmerruk, his voice hard and harsh. "When and where did we begin to go too far? What have we forgotten, turned our back on, overlooked?" Slavery was common to many of these states, and a stricter social caste system and gender differentiation ("division of labor") than in the Archipelago. "What have you got there?" hands as a burning, and a queasiness if it was much advanced. Approaching one steer that was lying her back. On her face was the same tranquil smile, directed at the empty rows of seats, which. "She'll be all right," she said. "There's a gash, but if you'll wash it with warm salt water. Hardic. Kargish has diverged most widely in vocabulary and syntax from the Old Speech. Most of its. The evil reputation magic had gained during the Dark Time, however, continued to cling to many of the practices of sorcerers and witches. Women's powers were particularly distrusted and maligned, the more so as they were conflated with the Old Powers. will be Archmage. Under his rule Roke will be as it was. The king will receive the true crown from. sad. His way of speaking was harsh, quick, dry, peaceable. The men of the Isle are not always. make free with names, my own included. Who named you, Irian?" "I don't know. I'm after bigger prey." courtier of the King? Here, now, there's no need for ropes and knots." Where he stood, with a. sir, but I have to ask, can you pay a little?" "I heard -" she said, and could not say what she had heard. The Changer stared openly at her. He was not as tall as she was. He stared at the Doorkeeper, and then at her again. in mist and sunlight at the end of the sea. The Hardic people of the Archipelago live by farming, herding, fishing, trading, and the usual. their listening silence, and rested there for days, and came back to him changed. They greeted him, and Azver took the word - "Come into the Grove, Master Windkey," he said, "and. the Mountain. favorite, a big, ugly, heavy-headed hound, followed her. She stopped on the slope above the marshy. see it, if you don't mind, sir. He won't come looking for it. But if he saw it, he'd take it. He. A long shudder went through her as she stood facing him. She felt herself larger than he was, larger than she was, enormously larger. She could reach out one finger and destroy him. He stood there in his small, brave, brief humanity, his mortality, defenseless. She drew a long, long breath. She stepped back from him. know later was a great spell of Transforming. Ard spoke the words of the spell awry, as teachers. "That would be only what the women of the Hand call it, keeping its meaning from the wizards and. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (69 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. was fond of children and animals. He liked all beautiful things. It was pleasant to have a young. was hurt. He had thought well of the boy, and offered to write the Summoner about him, and then at. which yielded elastically. In flight, I must have had a none-too-intelligent expression on my face. share the secrets of the King. And when he leaves me, he hides in the place of ordure, in foulness. Of them all it was the Herbal, the healer, who was the first to move. He went up the path and knelt down by Thorion. "My lord," he said, "my friend." "Because there are more of us! Gather twenty or thirty people of power in a room, they'll each seek to have their way. And you put men who've always had their way together with women who've had theirs, and they'll resent one another. And then, too, there are some true and real divisions among us, Medra. They must be settled, and they can't be settled easily. Though a little goodwill would go a long way." stockings on his battered feet and limped into the kitchen. Emer stood at the big sink, straining. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/D...20%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (2 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. "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." do and have, it can be co-opted and degraded; but it survives commercial and didactic. history and magic of the place. outside the barracks. The autumn sun was warm. The wizard had taken off his conical hat, and his. them of your decision to go to the School on Roke, if that is what you decide; or to the Great. "Would you like some fresh curds? It makes a good breakfast." She was eyeing him, but not for. "I know you don't." grim-faced old Namer. and had not recognized it, back then, before the earthquake that had sunk a half mile of the coast. To which Silence of course had said nothing, letting him hear what he had said and feel its. There was a pause. He forgot that he had to answer in words. "I'd stay if I might," he said. "I'd stay here." her ear. "Morred's Isle," he said. of me a woman pushed away the stewardess, who, with a slow, automatic motion, as if from the. need to touch down either on water or on earth; they live on the wing, aloft in air, sunlight. Glade. The Lord and his Lady praised the boy's singing and gave him a tiny gold box with a diamond. They were both shy. When Medra took her hand his hand shook,

and Ember, whose name was Elehal, comfort to talk to him even if he was no longer there, "is get into the mountain, right inside. He's so proud of it, his stupid domain, his stupid grandfather. I don't want it. I won't have it..After a long time, late in the afternoon, old Hound came trudging up the valley. He stopped now. wonders if I might spend a month at home this summer." "He drinks because he drinks," she said. "With some, that's all it is. I'll be in the dairy, now.." "Irian," he said, and now her name came easily, sweet and cool as spring water in his dry mouth..Shaken by the intensity of that will, Tern straightened up and drew a deep breath. He looked round at the girl, Dory. She did not return his gaze, watching her mother with stolid, sullen grief. Only after the woman sank into sleep did Dory move, going to help Rush, who as a friend and neighbor had made herself useful and was gathering up blood-soaked cloths scattered by the bed..triple beat on his tabor, and they were off into a sailor's jig.."They're men of the Hand, Dory, one short and pretty and one tall and proud, and they say they're seeking papers. I know you had some once, though you may not now. They've nothing you need in their pack, but it might be they'd pay a bit of ivory for what they want. Is it so?" She turned her bright eyes on Tern, and he nodded..buttonless jacket. Her mother, Tangle, made a good living by curing and healing, bone-knitting and..Clenching and unclenching his hands, he stood as far from her as he could, his back to her..placid hazel eyes were reflected retreating, diminishing garlands of lights.

RAMBRENT.Hound sniffed, sighed, and followed, trudging along unwillingly, while behind him in the village.a load of spars down to South Port, was a note for Diamond. It said, "True art requires a single.I preferred darkness but walked on straight ahead to a stone circle, where a human figure stood. I.She looked at him. She could not speak. She stood up and after a moment walked out of the..Listening to him, Medra thought of how he and Anieb had walked in the dark and rain by the faint..vertical cliffs, pale, bluish, bastion upon bastion, crystal battlements, chasms -- and this shining."Nothing. I thought you were a hundred." "How did you learn to do that?"..Golden did not like the child. She was both outspoken and defensive, both rash and timid. She was.until:..She considered herself, sitting in the deep silence of the Grove. No bird sang; the breeze was down; the leaves hung still. Am I ensorcelled? Am I a sterile thing, not whole, not a woman? she asked herself, looking at her strong bare arms, the slight, soft swell of her breasts in the shadow under the throat of her shirt..art, as he had taught it to her..accustomed to the dark, was able to discern, from it, the huge outlines of the surrounding..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..may well like their public name to be ordinary, common, like other people's names.."Seemed odd. Old woman from a village inland, never seen the sea, calling the name of an island..Irioth's head drooped as if in utter weariness. All tension and passion had gone out of his body..fields, and faded into the light, and were gone..for dragons! But that there was some kind of scheming and gathering together of men of power on..why? Why did it blow against them?..thread it is." Crow watched his companion with amusement and some disdain; he himself could..line. She was perhaps thirty paces from me when something happened to her. One moment I saw.."They sent me here. They said, "All the foreigners in one basket."" The stranger was in his..The summer ended too soon that year. Rain came early; snow fell in autumn even as far south as.."I'll tell him that the changes in a man's life may be beyond all the arts we know, and all our wisdom," said the Archmage. He looked at Emer again. "May he stay here, mistress? Is that your wish as well as his?"..fragments into a curve, then closed it into a circle. "Yes," he said, studying his eggshells,slow, very careful, he began to speak the spell of calling..She'd have thought being King in Havnor wasn't good enough for him..When she asked him if students came there from the Great House, he said, "Sometimes." Another time he said, "My words are nothing. Hear the leaves." That was all he said that could be called teaching. As she walked, she listened to the leaves when the wind rustled them or stormed in the crowns of the trees; she watched the shadows play, and thought about the roots of the trees down in the darkness of the earth. She was utterly content to be there. Yet always, without discontent or urgency, she felt that she was waiting. And that silent expectancy was deepest and clearest when she came out of the shelter of the woods and saw the open sky..though the Otter's House was still in sunlight. Kurremkarmerruk sat on the bench with his back..he got to his feet and went on. He never saw Anieb but he knew she was there. He followed her.."I guess we were children," he said. "Now...."..nearby. He did not know what Ember wanted of him; he hoped she meant to teach him, to begin to..Since the coronation of King Lebannen and the restoration of the High Courts and Councils in.."What should I do?" he said aloud after a while.."They say," said Ayo from the shadows, "that there's an island where the rule of justice is kept as it was under the Kings..Her brother came in. "Come on out," he said to her as soon as he saw the curer dozing on the settle. She stepped outside with him..The slave stood by, motionless. All the people who worked in the heat and fumes of the roaster tower were naked or wore only breechclout and moccasins. Otter glanced again at the slave, thinking by his height he was a child, and then saw the small breasts. It was a woman. She was bald. Her joints were swollen knobs in her bone-thin limbs. She looked up once at Otter, moving her eyes only. She spat into the fire, wiped her sore mouth with her hand, and stood motionless again..of golden wine made their appearance. He also worked up some very pretty fireworks for warm spring.."On the polyduct," said the man. "Which is your switch?"..passengers. The bright colors of the women's clothes I had by now learned to accept, but the men.."It's dangerous," Crow said, "it's pointless," but he made no further objection. The modest, naive..inertia had been annulled. How was this possible? I checked, bending my knees slightly, at three..and that all magic was in the roots of the trees, and that they were mingled with the roots of all..But in fact Golden wasn't thinking only about the business. He had observed something about his.."Bregg." I heard her voice as if from a distance. I started. I had completely forgotten..the end of the long bay, the jaws ready to snap shut. "I will," he said, and set to it..said, and he knocked again, and she put down her mending and went to the door. "Can you be drunk..He laid his hands on the seam of earth, but there was no power in them.."We have to finish the work here," he told her, and she looked at him mildly. All animals were..them -- were

swallowed by each successive tunnel of this journey whose destination I did not. There was not much to be got from the people his men brought to him. The same thing again: they

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