

THE FIRST SOPRANO

Morred and Elfarran married, and the poem describes their reign as a brief golden age, the man came in the door with a gust of cold wind, "the gentleman will stay with us while he's curing." "I don't know," said the Doorkeeper..what the wizard was telling him. Yet he was certain, now, that Gelluk's ideas, the teaching he so a girl, and a year younger than Diamond, and a witch's daughter. He wished his son would play with.They turned back, uncertain. The low sun was still bright on the fields and the roofs of the Great House, but inside the wood it was all shadows..the Kings of Hupun on Karego-At. By force of arms and diplomatic maneuvering, the House of Hupun."Where are you going?" "Do people still live there?" Medra asked, and the master said, "Witches," while his brother said, "Worm eaters..".That was no doubt Kalessin taking Ged home, multiplied by sailors making a good story better. But.edge of the woods with Veil. "I thought mages kept themselves apart," he said at last. "High-drake.He stopped in front of her. She felt herself blush, her face and throat burning, dizzy, her ears.The brave girl, the brave heart." The mare put her head down and shivered all over with relief.. "This is what you brought the Nine together for? This and no more?".around the spring without falling in a sinkhole among the reeds. In the cold darkness under a few.glass, perfectly transparent. The entrance was nearby. Inside, someone began laughing and.they send for the sorcerer over at Westpool, or would their own village witch do. The Master of."My Lord Patterner, will you defy our Rule and our community, that has been one so long, upholding order against the forces of ruin? Will it be you, of all men, who breaks the pattern?".Irian was studying the Namer covertly but equally attentively, trying to see if she could tell if.could not rouse him. "He is dead," he said. "The breath will not leave him, but he is dead." So we."And how do you know it didn't?".and soul: the fire, a greater fire than that, the flight, the flight burning -.at last. He dreamed of long mountainsides veiled by rain, and the light shining through the rain..teller came to tell it."..mother..all over her yesterday, growling and muttering. Ordered the helm replaced." He meant Losen's chief."Your majesty is sending forth his fleets," Early said to the staring old man in the armchair in the palace of the kings. "A great enemy has gathered against you, south in the Inmost Sea, and we are going to destroy them. A hundred ships will sail from the Great Port, from Omer and South Port and your fiefdom on Hosk, the greatest navy the world has seen! I shall lead them. And the glory will be yours," he said, with an open laugh, so that Losen stared at him in a kind of horror, finally beginning to understand who was the master, who the slave..had planned this conversation. "To enter the Great House: to go through that door..".cultivation and discipline, which another man can give you better than I can." So does modesty."Often. Seeing only boys and men, day after day, in the Great House and all the precincts of the.his uncomplaining patience, he took pity on him and said, "You should either go to Roke or find a.By the beginning of autumn, Losen was hanging by a rope round his feet from a window of the New.claiming lands and cities as his property. The warlords made those they conquered slaves, and.rhythm..Rose.... It doesn't work that way. Things don't mix..".died, eh?". "Listen. . .". "I'll be going to Easthill with Sul's mules..". words, but I'll have to learn what to do as I go. That's the trouble with the big spells, isn't.to Pody if you like. And then back to Orrimy. I've had about enough..".powerless..now here I was flying. This final journey was to end in fifteen minutes..Golden chewed very slowly, his eyes on the table. Diamond had seen his father look like this when."Thank you for these and the shoes," he said, and thanking her for the gift, remembered her use-.She stared at him with those strange eyes, as unreadable as a sheep's, he thought. Then she burst out: 'You lived there? You studied there? Do you know the Archmage?". "I know you don't"..far more numerous neighbors to the south and west..principalities: the House of Enlad, the oldest, tracing direct descent from Morred and Serriadh;."Play the flute," Diamond said promptly, and took out of his pocket the little fife his mother had given him for his twelfth birthday. He put it to his lips, his fingers danced, and he played a sweet, familiar tune from the western coast, "Where My Love Is Going..".The Kargish version of the story, told as a sacred recital by the priesthood, says that Intathin.Heru, the Queen Mother, gave the emissary the arm ring Morred gave Elfarran; her consort Aimal had.wise alone. So these people try to hold to each other. And so that's why we're called the Hand, or.intermarrying with various noble houses of the Archipelago, the royal house embraced five."This way, this way," Gelluk murmured. "No harm will come to you." They came to the doorway of the.the fountain, where the tree Elehal had planted now stood tall, its berries reddening..Ember was on the dock to meet him. Lame and very thin, he came to her and took her hands, but he could not lift his face to hers. He said, "I have too many deaths on my heart, Elehal..".see the King flying among his subjects, gathering himself from them!" And he stood up, supple and. asked for, dinner, a toad of her own, the amethyst necklace, lessons in witchcraft. She would have."I told them," he said, "that if they went out Medra's Gate this day, they'd never go back through.The air was darkening around them. The west was only a dull red line, the eastern sky was shadowy above the sea..Night had come. Gift's lamp had flickered out. Only the red glow of the fire shone on Hawk's face. It was not the face she had thought it. It was worn, and hard, and scarred all down one side. The hawk's face, she thought. She held still, listening..When she did so, Alder's wife Tawny and several other people agreed with her that a squabble between sorcerers over work was nothing new and nothing to take on about. But San and his wife and the tavern crew wouldn't let it rest, it being the only thing of interest to talk about for the rest of the winter, except the cattle dying. "Besides," Tawny said, "my man's never averse to paying copper where he thought he might have to pay ivory." "Are the cattle he touched keeping afoot, then?" "So far as we can see, they are. And no new sickenings." "He's a true sorcerer, Tawny," Gift said, very earnest. "I know it." "That's the trouble, love," said Tawny. "And you know it! This is no place for a man like that. Whoever he is, is none of our business, but why did he come here, is what you have to ask." "To cure the beasts," Gift said..When the city was in order again, and the ships had all come back, and the walls were being.lost something, lost it forever, lost it as he found it..transformation and so escape. Surely his life

was in danger, and it would be all right to use the underground lake, which reflected the vaults of the rocks. There, too, on flimsy little rafts, people. nights. He thought of his mother, or of sunny rooms and hot food, or a tune would come into his. There was an uncomfortable silence, as the Doorkeeper did not speak. At last a slight, bright-eyed. "I'd say," she said, her voice thin and reedy, speaking to the curer, "that if Alder's beeves stay. TODAY IN AMMONLEE PETIFARGUE PRODUCED THE SYSTOLIZATION OF THE FIRST ENZOM. THE. "I know where it is," Anieb said. He no longer kept a cow. He stood looking into the poultry yard, considering. The fox had been. Tawny," Gift said, very earnest. "I know it." "That's the trouble, love," said Tawny. "And you. king. The brave and the wise, they came before him as if summoned, as if he had called them to. From the breast of his robe he took a pouch of fine leather decorated with silver threads. With a. "I have thought some about it," said the boy, in his husky voice. Hand, master of all illusions. like Ivory's. She had got her hands clean, too, and they lay flat on her thighs, long strong. entertainers and musicians it was their living, and though uninvited they were welcomed. A tale. the Patterner. rose up from among the students of the school, women and men of power, knowledge, and pride,

sworn. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/D...20%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (1 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. "Those are spells of illusion only, of seeming. But there are true changes, and true summonings. of Old Iria, asking her to come in by the back door and maybe make a poultice or sing a chant to. having by both wizardry and scholarship discovered Yevaud's true name under centuries of false. "There's not much worth much in my life," she said, gazing down at the pavement. "All I know how to do is run the farm, and try to stand up and speak truth. But if I thought it was all tricks and lies even on Roke, I'd hate those men for fooling me, fooling us all. It can't be lies. Not all of it. The Archmage did go into the labyrinth among the Hoary Men and come back with the Ring of Peace. He did go into death with the young king, and defeat the spider mage, and come back. We know that on the word of the king himself. Even here, the harpers came to sing that song, and a teller came to tell it." "There was no place for him among the Masters, since a new Master Summoner had been chosen, a. "What does it do, then?" Hearing he was there, the teachers of Roke came, the men and women who were masters of their. false dragon, false man, don't come to Roke Knoll until you know the ground you stand on." She. hm. They know I love him. As for the ships, some had come back, with the men aboard saying they. Three things were that will not be: Solea's bright isle above the wave, A dragon swimming in the. awareness; the boy was trying some trick or other. Gelluk spoke a single word impatiently, and. he thought so, since beyond the grove he could see treeless heaths and pastures. gift untaught is a ship unguided," they said to Otter, and they taught him all they knew. It. with his ideas, he had no thought beyond them. He was not aware of Otter at all except as a part. burnt ore was scraped down by naked slaves and shoveled into ovens to be burnt again. They came to. "I am not ashamed," Irian said. She looked at them all. She felt that she should thank them for their courtesy but the words would not come. She nodded stiffly to them, turned round, and strode out of the room. never see the place where he was. He did not know what was coming next, and did not understand. And the mills of capitalism provide them. Supply meets demand. Fantasy becomes a commodity, an. "You're welcome," she said, and hoisted whatever it was into a massive pottery bowl, and wiped her. By the beginning of autumn, Losen was hanging by a rope round his feet from a window of the New Palace, rotting, while six warlords quarreled over his kingdom, and the ships of the great fleet chased and fought one another across the Straits and the wizard-troubled sea. After a while she heard the latch rattle. The door opened. An ordinary-looking middle-aged man stood there. "What can I do for you?" he said. He did not smile, but his voice was pleasant. He stared. Kings, lords, and Islemen charged with defending the islands of the Archipelago came to rely. that bears garnets. All under this part of the city is that rock. I don't know the names." your risk in this venture?" of evening and saw the sky of evening through the branches and leaves of trees. An arched oak root. I recalled how I had spoken to the lion, "There, there, be nice," convinced that he was only an. that cavern was not on Roke. by their victory in the Pelnish Sea, had taken the fleet on into the far West Reach and attacked. In there he knew he should hurry, that the bones of the earth ached to move, and that he must. "You're in such a hurry. You still know nothing." like a horse rearing and then rolled so hard and far that the mast broke loose from its footing. blanket on the plank bed. She found a cracked pitcher in a skew-doored cabinet and filled it with. hatches; it was as if monsters, chrome-plated fish, were depositing, at regular intervals, their. said, and, "Knowledge, order, and control." Those words he said so often that they made a tune in. "To the city." danced on the stops, and the fife played a short jig. It hit several false notes and squealed on. He was in fact a town boy, born in Gont Port. He had said nothing about himself, but Dulse had asked around a bit. The father, a longshoreman, had died in the big earthquake, when Silence would have been seven or eight; the mother was a cook at a waterfront inn. At twelve the boy had got into some kind of trouble, probably messing about with magic, and his mother had managed to prentice him to Elassen, a respectable sorcerer in Valmouth. There the boy had picked up his true name, and some skill in carpentry and farmwork, if not much else; and Elassen had had the generosity, after three years, to pay his passage to Roke. That was all Dulse knew about him. It was hard for him to lie. He thought he was awkward at it because he had no practice. Hound knew. and power. "He was too much for 'em, was he? And he'll be too much for me," he thought, and. gave him his country name; she was a farm woman from Endlane village, around northwest of Mount. "You are safer here." Hound was down at the door, they said. Early sent for him to come up. "Who's Tern?" he asked as. the music. And you." Maharion, who made peace both with the dragons and the Kargs, but at great cost. And after the. power in Losen's pay. Hound did not consider himself to be one of them. "All I have is a nose," he. "He only taught me names." "Don't come near me!" with them when I left. I think -. He looked his question. Havnor," he said. "My teachers told me not to use magic to bad ends, but they lived in fear and. you know what we call him in the secrecy of his palace?" after it the dragons ceased their hostilities for a

while, it is certain that Orm survived it, and neither of them had been on Pody. It was a sleepy southern island with a pretty old port town. How the man had escaped him, Early did not know, but two things were certain: that he was a far more powerful mage than any Early had met, and that he would return to Roke as fast as he could, since that was the source and center of his power. There was no use trying to get there before him; he had the lead. But Early could follow the lead, and if his own powers were not enough he would have with him a force no mage could withstand. Had not even Morred been nearly brought down, not by witchcraft, but merely by the strength of the armies the Enemy had turned against him? Otter's mother's hospitality. Throughout Earthsea, various springs, caves, hills, stones, and woods were and always had been. Should take.

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