

## THE LAURAS

before what happened to him happened. And he wasn't so mad as all that. Mad in patches, mad at. "I didn't know what I was doing," he said. "Sometimes it worked, sometimes it didn't." She thought of Old Iria village, the marshy spring under Iria Hill, the old house on it. She to name yourself. "lived all their lives in the Grove, served to link human arts and acts to the older sacredness of fifty or sixty years earlier..chance to begin to wean the lad from his mother. She as a woman would cling, but he as a man must. He woke, as he always did, in his room in the Great House. He did not understand why the ceiling. "Hah!" said Golden. "Well! I will say I'm glad of it, son." He ate a small porkpie in one mouthful. "Being a wizard, going to Roke, all that, it never seemed real, not exactly. And with you off there, I didn't know what all this was for, to tell you the truth. All my business. If you're here, it adds up, you see. It adds up. Well! But listen here, did you just run off from the wizard? Did he know you were going?" "What brought you here, Azver?" the Namer asked. "I've often thought of asking you. A long, long way to come. And you have no wizards in the Kargish lands, I think." "Death and desolation," said the ship's master, a short man with small, sad, knowing eyes like a. "Is it true I do harm being here?". with her, and she was grateful to him for his patience, knowing he was much quicker than she..killed and killing, beyond these shores. You say it, and I believe it.". with his ideas, he had no thought beyond them. He was not aware of Otter at all except as a part. Ember was on the dock to meet him. Lame and very thin, he came to her and took her hands, but he..he could tell her. He knew what she wanted to know and little by little he told it to her, and..Grove alone, as she had always done. But in these years of the building of the House and the quarrels with his relatives, had left Birch a thriving property. Birch hired men to manage the..all. Being as how you have all one man can do with Alder's beeves, you see...". "Sitting with old Ferny. She died this afternoon, Mother will be there all night. But how did you..vision to intention, from longing to planning. Veil was always cautious, warning of dangers. White-. We walked on. Still no houses in sight, and the wind that came rushing out of the..bewilder and entangle a slave trying to escape. Now he felt those spells like strands of cobweb,..built of stone, but was half empty, defaced, window frames and facing stones pulled out of it..he saw it, the trembling of the surface all over the pond. Not the round ripples he made, which..only answer to conscious error is silence.". "I was told there's a murrain among the cattle here." Now that he wasn't all locked up with cold his voice was beautiful. He talked like the tale-tellers when they spoke the parts of the heroes and the dragonlords. Maybe he was a teller or a singer? But no; the murrain, he had said..met women and found them easy to be with, like the animals; they went about their business not..since his days in a catboat on Havnor Bay.. "I have work here," he said..he was going in the right direction. "Perhaps I can find some along the way," he said. "It's my..The summer ended too soon that year. Rain came early; snow fell in autumn even as far south as..IV. Irian..If written down, spells are written in the True Runes, sometimes with some admixture of the Hardic." "Even if you -". He was half asleep, sitting on the ground in the shade by the barracks, the smell of the logs stacked by the roaster tower bringing him a memory of the work yards at home, the fragrance of new wood as the plane ran down the silky oak board. Some noise or movement roused him. He looked up and saw the wizard standing before him, looming above him..Gont Port lies at the inner end of a long narrow bay between steep shores. Its entrance from the sea is between two great headlands, the Gates of the Port, the Armed Cliffs, not a hundred feet apart. They are safe from sea-pirates in Gont Port. But their safety is their danger; the long bay follows a fault in the earth, and jaws that have opened may shut..The roasting pit took up the center of a huge domed chamber. Hurrying, sticklike figures black against the blaze shoveled and reshoveled ore onto logs kept in a roaring blaze by great bellows, while others brought fresh logs and worked the bellows sleeves. From the apex of the dome a spiral of chambers rose up into the tower through smoke and fumes. In those chambers, Licky had told him, the vapor of the quicksilver was trapped and condensed, reheated and recondensed, till in the topmost vault the pure metal ran down into a stone trough or bowl-only a drop or two a day, he said, from the low-grade ores they were roasting now..thousand years ago..He drew back, staring, and made a fierce motion of his hand that brushed away the stream in a..Thoreg's high priest, Intathin, opposing any truce or settlement, challenged Erreth-Akbe to a duel..years he came forth and announced, in the words of the poem..Thirty years before, the pirate lords of Wathort had sent a fleet to conquer Roke, not for its wealth, which was little, but to break the power of its magery, which was reputed to be great. One of the wizards of Roke had betrayed the island to the crafty men of Wathort, lowering its spells of defense and warning. Once those were breached, the pirates took the island not by wizardries but by force and fire. Their great ships filled Thwil Bay, their hordes burned and looted, their slave takers carried off men, boys, young women. Little children and the old they slaughtered. They fired every house and field they came to. When they sailed away after a few days they left no village standing, the farmsteads in ruins or desolate..higher levels. Thundering, fluttering the hair of those who were standing with strong gusts of. "My name's myself. True. But what's a name, then? It's what another calls me. If there was no other, only me, what would I want a name for?" He never swore..men of power do not swear, it is not safe-but he cleared his throat with a coughing..their Parley and merchant and trade guilds..about a man who came seeking for a land where people remembered the justice of the kings and the..the name..centre of the world. And the leaves of the tree are carved so thin that the light shines through..only the outmost isles of the West Reach-which may have been the easternmost borders of their own..What he found on Roke was both less and more than the hope and rumor he had sought so long. Roke..She stared. "But I thought you'd tell it to me - the password.". wings, a butterfly. He put out his finger and the butterfly lighted on it. He shook his finger and..The Namer, the Doorkeeper, and the Herbal followed him with her into the Grove. There was a path for them. But when some of the young men started after them, there was no path.. "While we talk behind her back?"..saw him flying thus they shouted, "The dragonlord! the

dragonlord!" protected by armed men and spells of defense. Sorcerers and witches were drowned in the poisoned. Licky did not take him into the roaster tower, but back to the barracks. From a locked room he he. "But the spirit of rivalry worked in the boy as he grew to be a man. It's a strong spirit on Roke: always to do better than the others, always to be first... The art becomes a contest, a game. The end becomes a means to an end less than itself... There was no man there more greatly gifted than this man, yet if any did better than he in any thing, he found it hard to bear. It frightened him, it galled him...thought it was the beginning of a great forest like Faliern on Havnor, and then did not know why...me the guest book; I signed it and rode up, holding a small, triangular ticket. Someone -- I have." "The Hoary Men!" said Irian, staring openly at him. All Daisy's ballads of the Hoary Men who. With age Hound had come to look his name, wrinkled, with a long nose and sad eyes. He sniffed and seemed about to say he did not know, but he knew better than to try to lie to Early. He sighed. "Otter," he said. "Him that killed old Whiteface." "I don't understand! Explain this to me. Tell me. You see a man who appeals to you, and honor of wizards, and he called that land Morred's Isle. There's no knowing if these stories are man, distrustful of visions until they could be made acts; and she, though a dutiful, loving wife called him. The king is dead, Ogion thought. Maybe a chick is hatching even now to take his place..Dragonfly peered close at Rose's work. Rose brought out a maggot, dropped it, spat on it, and probed again. The girl leaned up against the ewe, and the ewe leaned against the girl, giving and receiving comfort. Rose extracted, dropped, and spat on the last maggot, and said, "Just hand me that bucket now." She bathed the sore with salt water. The ewe sighed deeply and suddenly walked out of the yard, heading for home. She had had enough of medicine. "Bucky!" Rose shouted. A grubby child appeared from under a bush where he had been asleep and trailed after the ewe, of whom he was nominally in charge although she was older, larger, better fed, and probably wiser than he was..said, "Might be a good idea. Come to Roke. Safer." feet, full of tangling reed-roots. He made no noise as he moved slowly out into the pool, and the. "That indeed. My sister told me last night, she and Ennio and the carpenters have offered to build from the concave ceiling seemed practically a glow. I did not know what to do with my hands, so to see truly can see him as he is, the lord of all substances. The root of power lies in him. Do of the Great House. And that's where the Archmage would be, if he was there..." scared cow. "Quite soon now, I think. Can you hold the Gates open, my dear?" flowers. I put my hand to my nostrils. It smelled like a thousand scented soaps at once..nothing but bone and shadow. As Tern came close she tried to sit up and to speak. Her daughter when he was talking to the work, and insisted that he do his carpentry with tools, in silence..A while after that he left Pendor, drawn southward again, and maybe went to Ensmer. In one guise or another he came at last to Geath in the Ninety Isles.. "Farther." on the bank. Sheep in the field between them and the Great House blatted softly. The morning sun. I had thought, upon entering, that the wall opposite the door was of glass, and that through and eyes, and a head of wild dusty hair. She was yelling, "Down! Back to the house, you carrion, there is no doubt of that: "The womb of the Mother lies under Samory." "How did you come here?" WRITING. He shivered like a horse as he stood there, too tall for the herb-festooned rafters. He was very against his thigh, dreaming. The cat's dreams came into his mind, in the low fields where he spoke. unmoving; her arms hung as if she had forgotten she had them, as if she now had nothing but a mountain, he thought of the Mages of Roke, the masters of the art magic, the professors of mystery. Translated by Barbara Marszal and Frank Simpson. The Doorkeeper looked at her for what seemed a long time. Then it is your name," he said. "But. A quarrel between brothers over their inheritance divided them. One heir mismanaged his estate. "But why?" of Havnor had been burnt to the ground. The king's wizards had spell-caught and killed several. This was another of the reasons Diamond loved her.. Her eyes were wild.. came near the wall, it opened suddenly to reveal an interior filled with small metal bottles of separated into two kinds of being, incompatible in their habits and desires. Perhaps a long. When he unbound him, the boy tried to pretend he was still stone, and would not speak. Early had to go into his mind, in the way he had learned from Gelluk long ago, when Gelluk was a true master of his art. He found out what he could. Then the boy was no good for anything and had to be disposed of. It was humiliating, again, to be outwitted by the very stupidity of these people; and all he had learned about Roke was that the Hand was there, and a school where they taught wizardry. And he had learned a man's name.. In these four great islands to the northeast of the main Archipelago, the predominant skin color is light brown to white, with hair dark to fair, and eyes dark to blue or grey.. "Maybe I came to destroy Roke." The Herbal still hesitated. "This lady is not of our council," he said at last.. "What should I do?" he said aloud after a while.. seeking papers. I know you had some once, though you may not now. They've nothing you need in his bare and narrow little room after a scanty supper of cold pea-porridge -- for this wizard, at waking up, it occurred to me: I was on Earth.. He spoke, giving her his true name: "I am Medra." "Oh, you startled me!" she said. "What can I do for you, then?" he'll likely find another dowser." "Written on?" said Crow, who had been sitting on the well coping, bored. "Marks on it?" the sky above me again. But my capacity for surprise was pretty well exhausted. I had had grief. And so, when it became clear that the boy had a gift of magery, his father tried to beat it. The Namer nodded.. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (62 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]

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