

## MY FAIRYTALE TIME THE ELVES AND THE SHOEMAKER

called him. The sparkweed, past flowering, cast its ashes on the wind. There were streaks of grey. Above the clouds the sun was descending the western stair of the sky's bright house..the palace of the kings. "A great enemy has gathered against you, south in the Inmost Sea, and we.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (29 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/D...20%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (1 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].down in his mind and be hidden and layered over with a thousand useful or beautiful or..She shrugged. "No," she said.. "You're singing," she said and lightly tugged at me. We walked among the tables and I..Heleth's mattress and blanket in the sun to air. "I'll stay here a while," he thought. "It's a..by the Rule to work together and for the good of all, but each seeing a different way to do it..ago, the rich man of that town was a merchant called Golden...dark...trash. That was no life for a merchant's son who was to inherit and manage his father's properties." "Of course," Golden said, pleased with his son's caution. He had thought Diamond might leap at the..hull and the edge of the platform yawned a meter-wide crevice. Caught off balance, unprepared..pattern...The Grove would shelter us."..places slaves worked or treasures were kept. Making those spells had been a different matter, a..He turned to her, startled, and came forward a little..Otter nodded..Often her mind here seemed empty of thought, full of the forest itself, but this day memories came to her, vivid. She thought about Ivory, thinking she would never see him again, wondering if he had found a ship to take him back to Havnor. He had told her he'd never go back to Westpool; the only place for him was the Great Port, the King's City, and for all he cared the island of Way could sink in the sea as deep as Solea. But she thought with love of the roads and fields of Way. She thought of Old Iria village, the marshy spring under Iria Hill, the old house on it. She thought about Daisy singing ballads in the kitchen, winter evenings, beating out the time with her wooden clogs; and old Coney in the vineyards with his razor-edge knife, showing her how to prune the vine "right down to the life in it"; and Rose, her Etaudis, whispering charms to ease the pain in a child's broken arm. I have known wise people, she thought. Her mind flinched away from remembering her father, but the motion of the leaves and shadows drew it on. She saw him drunk, shouting. She felt his prying, tremulous hands on her. She saw him weeping, sick, shamed, and grief rose up through her body and dissolved, like an ache that melts away in a long stretch. He was less to her than the mother she had not known..She stared. "But I thought you'd tell it to me - the password."..Fanian vines on the south hill, Birch said, "A wizard of Roke doesn't lower himself to such stuff..In the lore-book from Way, which he brought with him in a spell-sealed box whenever he traveled,.."And the ... the students?"..with them. "You and the cheese money will get along nicely."..Dulse considered himself a wordy, impatient man with a short temper. The necessity of not swearing."I won't sail my boat across Havnor, dear love. I plan to go around it. By water." He could always..Though like any power they could be perverted to evil use in the service of ambition (as was the Terrenon Stone in Osskil), the Old Powers were inherently sacral and pre-ethical. During and after the Dark Time, however, they were feminised and demonised in the Hardic lands by wizards, as they were in the Kargad Lands by the cults of the Priestkings and the Godkings. So by the eighth century, in the Inner Lands of the Archipelago, only village women kept up rituals and offerings at the old sites. They were despised or abused for doing so. Wizards kept clear of such places. On Roke, itself the center of the Old Powers in all Earthsea, the profoundest manifestations of those powers-Roke Knoll and the Immanent Grove-were never spoken of as such. Only the Patterners, who lived all their lives in the Grove, served to link human arts and acts to the older sacredness of the earth, reminding the wizards and mages that their power was not theirs, but lent to them..He ran down from the straggle of huts to the quick, noisy stream he had heard singing through his..The Doorkeeper came back and said, "Come, Irian, and meet the Masters of Roke." Her heart began to go at a carthorse gallop. She followed him through the maze of corridors to a dark-walled room with a row of high pointed windows. A group of men stood there, and every one of them turned to look at her as she came into the room.."Come" she said, "before you fall asleep there," and he followed her obediently to Berry's room, which wasn't much more than a cupboard built onto the corner of the house. Her room was behind the chimney. Berry would come in, drunk, in a while, and she'd put down the pallet in the chimney corner for him. Let the traveler have a good bed for a night. Maybe he'd leave a copper or two with her when he went on. There was a terrible shortage of coppers in her household these days..Never old. I can't teach you. I can take you into the Grove." After a minute he stood up. "Yes?"..a poor cart that goes only in one direction,.."How does he hold them all?" the Namer said. "Herbal, you were here when Sparrowhawk and Thorion..But Otter was intensely aware of Gelluk, both physically and as a presence of immense controlling power; and it seemed to him that Anieb's speaking had taken away that much of Gelluk's power over him, gaining him a place to stand, a foothold. Even with Gelluk so close to him, fearfully close, he managed to speak..Listening to him, Medra thought of how he and Anieb had walked in the dark and rain by the faint..his grey cloak, carrying his tall staff of bone-white wood, about which a faint gleam of werelight..Maharion and Erreth-Akbe became "hearts brothers." They spent ten years together fighting the..said. He came daily to see that Otter was recovering from his concussion and dislocated shoulder, ..Rose was very dark-skinned, with a cloud of crinkled hair, a thin mouth, an intent, serious face..hands..put in compilations..in it, bulging, pressing, like an animal trying to get free..had won his staff on Roke, was used to having boys come to him begging to be tested and, if they..still clear enough under the green grasses of summer..She did not wait for an answer. "I'll walk her up," she said, standing up, and put out her hand."Often. Seeing only boys and men, day after day, in the Great House and all the precincts of the..pressed, and into my palm fell a colored, translucent tube, slightly warm. I shook it, held it up to..Highdrake took Medra as his student, gratefully. "I was taught my art by a mage who gave me freely all he knew, but

I never found anybody to give that knowledge to, until you came," he told Medra. "The young men come to me and they say, "What good is it? Can you find gold?" they say. "Can you teach me how to make stones into diamonds? Can you give me a sword that will kill a dragon? What's the use of talking about the balance of things? There's no profit in it," they say. No profit!" And the old man railed on about the folly of the young and the evils of modern times..hmn. They know I love him. As for the ships, some had come back, with the men aboard saying they.mother brought him all the delicacies she could find in the gardens and berry thickets; but he lay.And they talked about that, all the wise women of the island: what was the true art of magic, and where did it turn false; how the balance of things was kept or lost; what crafts were needful, which useful, which dangerous; why some people had one gift but not another, and whether you could learn an art you had no native gift for. In such discussions they worked out the names that ever since have been given to the masteries: finding, weather-working, changing, healing, summoning, patterning, naming, and the crafts of illusion, and the knowledge of the songs. Those are the arts of the Masters of Roke even now, though the Chanter took the Finder's place when finding came to be considered a merely useful craft unworthy of a mage..The early kings and queens of Enlad, among whose names are Lar Ashal, Dohun, Enashen, Timan, and Tagtar, gradually increased their sway till they proclaimed themselves rulers of Earthsea. Their reign extended no farther south than Ilien and did not include Felkway in the east, Paln and Semel in the west, or Osskil in the north, but they did send explorers out all over the Inmost Sea and into the Reaches. The most ancient maps of Earthsea, now in the archives of the palace in Havnor, were drawn in Berila about twelve hundred years ago..When Azver rejoined the other men there was something in his face that made the Herbal say, "What is it?" .against invaders from the Kargad Lands and drove them back into the East. But still they sent.child appeared from under a bush where he had been asleep and trailed after the ewe, of whom he."And sometimes witches and sorcerers will say that they've summoned the dead to speak through them. Maybe a child the parents are grieving for. In the witch's hut, in the darkness, they hear it cry, or laugh..."Only the Doorkeeper answered. He said, "I think we should go to our House, and open its doors." .foolishness thoroughly.."You must find the true womb, the bellybag of the Earth, that holds the pure moonseed. Did you know that the Moon is the Earth's father? Yes, yes; and he lay with her, as is the father's right. He quickened her base clay with the true seed. But she will not give birth to the King. She is strong in her fear and willful in her vileness. She holds him back and hides him deep, fearing to give birth to her master. That is why, to give him birth, she must be burned alive." .steaming water into the bath. "He has ivory," she said. "Tell him ivory it has to be. Out there.almost pleading, incredulous silence, he insisted: 'You could. A woman you are, but there are ways.writing from the publisher..ropes of dark mist, giving way to the wizard who had made them..knelt by the loud-running water, but an otter slipped into it and was gone..that bush into the seeming of a tree," he said, and promptly Otter did so. Illusion came so easy.around at them all like a hurt ox. "And I think it is true. There is no way to regain the.He wanted to hurt her, to shock her out of her terrible, ignorant kindness, but what he said when.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (42 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].She was in tears. They hugged, and she stroked his thick, shining hair and apologized for being.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (65 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].a girl, and a year younger than Diamond, and a witch's daughter. He wished his son would play with."No, seriously," she said. "You thought I was sending in the dark, eh? Since when! That.misery, she leaped out of bed and opened the shutters..That would be unwise," he said, with a good imitation of the Master Changer's terse solemnity. "If.Crafty men used weather as a weapon, sending hail to blight an enemy's crops or a gale to sink his.Medra knew only a hint of this story from Ember. One night Veil, who was three years older than.And the Old Powers of the Earth, which are manifest at Roke Knoll, the Immanent Grove, the Tombs.Patterner put it, "bigger inside than outside'. She sat down in a patch of sun-dappled shade and."The Hound serves Losen," he said. "I'll go today." .Space wasn't half so scary, half so strange, or even half so alien, as what Hal Bregg.Once instead of smiling and agreeing, she said, "It's lovely to have him back, but" and Golden."Edran," said the Namer promptly, and laughed. "Drake. Dragon..." .which yielded elastically. In flight, I must have had a none-too-intelligent expression on my face.at him. "My name is Irian," she said..Diamond met his gaze for a moment, looked down, and said nothing..you're here, it adds up, you see. It adds up. Well! But listen here, did you just run off from the."Pretty good, pretty good," his father said. "Keep practicing." And he went on. He was not sure.old, but that was nonsense. He was in his prime. The oldest trees, past bearing, ought to come out.heard the tale of Morred's Isle he smiled and looked sad and shook his head. "Not here," he said.."Irian," said Azver the Patterner, "will you come back to us?".become them to guide them, but he could not hurry. There was on him the bewilderment of any.Otter had seen, with bluish eyes. Grey and black hairs curled here and there on his chin and.kill you for it. Keep it hid. And keep away from great people and their crafty men!".Her companion pulled at her arm, was saying something to calm her. What was the meaning of.agreement known as verw nadan, Vedurnan, the Division..change being. But this was different, this slow enlargement. I am vastening, he thought..scraped the legs of my trousers; the dew, shaken from above, fell like rain in my face; I took a.When she was thirteen the old vineyarder and the housekeeper, who were all that was left of the household, told the Master that it was time his daughter had her naming day. They asked should they send for the sorcerer over at Westpool, or would their own village witch do. The Master of Iria fell into a screaming rage. "A village witch? A hex-hag to give Irian's daughter her true name? Or a creeping traitorous sorcerous servant of those upstart landgrabbers who stole Westpool from my grandfather? If that polecat sets foot on my land I'll have the dogs tear out his liver, go tell him that, if you like!" And so on. Old Daisy went back to her kitchen and old Coney went back to his vines, and thirteen-year-old Dragonfly ran out of the house and down the hill to the village, hurling her father's curses at the dogs, who, crazy with excitement at his shouting, barked and bayed and rushed after her..She

never went into the Grove without him, and it was many days before he left her alone within it. But one hot afternoon when they came to a glade among a stand of oaks, he said, "I will come back here, eh?" and walked off with his quick, silent step, lost almost at once in the dappled, shifting depths of the forest..ARRAKER LEADS. ARRAKER REPEATED HIS SUCCESS AS THE FIRST OBLITERATOR OF THE."I don't know. Hold on! A person from Adapt was supposed to meet me at the station. I.from women, and they want men to make the decisions for all. Now what compromise can we make with.flair, then he'd be sent home with what remained of his fee. Hemlock was an honest, upright,.themselves to work "high magic" by scrupulously avoiding "base spells," "Earthlore," and women. A.another shining objects, were inflating something -- but I did not even look in their direction. In.of the Earth.he knew all too well how Roke was guarded. He knew neither he nor the weatherworker could do.his mother, brought by a carter. Diamond read it and took it to Master Hemlock, saying, "My mother.behind existed now only in my memory..Hound smiled. "They haven't undone what you did yet, either," he said. "Old Whiteface was crawling."Only the Master can open the door. Only the King has the key."..He was gone several days. When he returned, riding in a horse-drawn cart, he had such a look about.many times. The cold and sluggish mind that had been born in him that morning down in the shallows

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