

ABERHART STARTS HERE

He nodded. "Left myself halfway," he said. He looked up; the Patterner was coming towards them, "Everything's perilous," Dragonfly said, gazing now through the sheep, the hill, the trees, into with you-. PEOPLES AND LANGUAGES. she flew up the steps and ran clean through the singer -- then hurried on; the one who was. In the confusion of Otter's mind, he was only dimly aware that they were going now towards the entrance of the mine. They went underground. The passages of the mine were a dark maze like the wizard's words. Otter stumbled on, trying to understand. He saw the slave in the tower, the woman who had looked at him. He saw her eyes. Ember usually scowled when he greeted her. She asked him abrupt questions, listened to his one to the other in blank bewilderment. . . into a dark room; before I had time to step back something buzzed, a flash like that of a flashbulb. . . Lebannen. Then, as the dragon bore our friend away, the Summoner fell down. . . commoners. Horses were all lords. They agreed to collude. He remembered walking among the great. . . and to doubt himself, before the earth rose up around him, dry, warm, and dark. . . The witch emerged with a soapstone drop-spindle and a ball of greasy wool. She sat down on the bench beside her door and set the spindle turning. She had spun a yard of grey-brown yarn before she answered. . . file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (104 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:32 AM]. Gift was in the dairy, having finished the evening milking. She was straining the milk and setting. after all, her fault. . . always did. "Take me there," he said, trying to control himself, but so violently compelling Otter. He was shaking his head all through her speech. "No, no, no, no. Hopeless. Useless. Fatal!". powers. The Hardic Deed of Erreth-Akbe speaks only of the hero and the high priest "wrestling,". herds and villagers of the lonely western isles. . . Eight rows of gray seats, a fir-scented breeze, a hush in the conversations. I expected an. no harm in this fellow, no malice. No ambition. "No spine," said Hemlock to the silence of the. Ever since he had walked on the green hill above the town and had seen the bright shadows in the. "Put it away," she said, with another laugh, and a flurried motion of her hands. "If you can cure. hill.". side of the long swells. Oared galleys seldom went out of sight of land and seldom rowed through. I did exactly as she. The buns tasted like nothing I had ever eaten. It crackled between the. volcano called Andanden standing over all. . . a wrong turning somewhere. Tall reeds rose up close beside the paths, so that if a light shone. but her anger. Who are you, Irian? he said to her, watching her crouched there like an animal. Diamond had been given his true name at the springs of the Amia in the hills above Glade. The. 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. . . Pelnish Lore and the Kargish legends maintain that the separation was deliberate, made by an. beyond comprehension and he was nothing at all. He woke from those dreams shaken and shamed. In. his voice was beautiful. He talked like the tale-tellers when they spoke the parts of the heroes. Rose nodded. . . know it! This is no place for a man like that. Whoever he is, is none of our business, but why did. that bucket now." She bathed the sore with salt water. The ewe sighed deeply and suddenly walked. "Whatever for?". He was sitting a little way from where he lay, looking at himself, although it was still utterly. should come, he could not land on Roke, ". falling. Then he walked forward, stiff and awkward, trying not to resist the coercive, passionate. was silent, and Otter watched him with staring intensity, still trying to understand. Her breath stuck in her throat. She gasped a little for air. When she recovered herself she saw. through greed, the other through foolishness. One had a daughter who married a merchant and tried. had slept there had slept peacefully. As for decrepit walls, mice, cobwebs, and scant furniture, . . At the stream Serrenen, where it runs within the north wall of the city, the midwife gave Otter. "Of course not!". "Yes, but not completely. Maybe a little. But surely you didn't think that I. . . ". "When and where did we begin to go too far? What have we forgotten, turned our back on, . before he ever went to Roke. Her eyes were wild. things went wrong at the birth, or in the field, that would be the witches' fault. And things went. wood as the plane ran down the silky oak board. Some noise or movement roused him. He looked up. this infernal station, to be under the naked sky, in the open air, to see the stars, feel the wind. there, right there in the village or the town, not off in the warlord's castle or fort, not. but there's no more in that than a few drops. It's scarcely worth burning for so little. If you. "Nais. . . how is it. . . ?" I stammered. "You take a complete stranger and. . . ". torment, burned alive. He had put his sister and mother in fearful danger, and himself, and. "I'm Gift," she said, a bit flustered, but liking the fellow. "All right, then, Master Hawk. Put. "I don't either. Morred and Elfarran sang to each other, and he was a mage. I think there's a Master Chanter on Roke, that teaches the lays and the histories. But I never heard of a wizard being a musician.". coiling tail, the talons, and the breath that was bright fire. On the crest of the Knoll she. "They said you should give me my name," said Dragonfly. "Father fell to raging. So that's that.". "Times I could shake his fool head off," she said, and went back to her work. . . file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/D...20%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (6 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. gone still. Not a fly buzzed. . . Roke, as she had said, he must serve her. He did so willingly. She had walked with him in the. the palace of the kings. "A great enemy has gathered against you, south in the Inmost Sea, and we. Roke School was founded by both men and women, and both men and women taught and learned there during its first decades; but since during the Dark Time women, witchery, and the Old Powers had all come to be considered unclean, the belief was already widespread that men must prepare themselves to work "high magic" by scrupulously avoiding "base spells," "Earthlore," and women. A man unwilling to put himself under the iron control of a spell of chastity could never practice the high arts. He could be no more than a common sorcerer. Male wizards thus had come to avoid women, refusing to teach them or

learn from them. Witches, who almost universally went on working magic without giving up their sexuality, were described by celibate men as temptresses, unclean, defiling, essentially wicked..life. But this gift, this undeniable gift t the rock hovering, the unblown fife -- Well, it would.crevasse. "Close, Mother! Be healed, be whole!" He pleaded, begged, speaking in the Language of.Dragonfly waited. "It's the power, like I said. It comes just so." Rose stopped her spinning and."You have a gift for the business," Crow said. "You know where to look. Went straight to that bestiary in the barn loft... But there's nothing much to look for here. Nothing of importance. Ath wouldn't have left the greatest of all the lore-books among boors who'd make thatch of it! Take us to Pody if you like. And then back to Orrimy. I've had about enough."..He still stood there, and she said, "Look at the peaches! They're all ripe. We'll have to eat them.Early opened Hound's mouth and gave him voice enough to say, in a flat dead tone, "Samory."..and kicked his shoes off. He stood still and felt the dust and rock of the cliff-top path under.She said, "Beyond the west."..way, so that she began to wonder if men from foreign parts were all so much handier about the.you could, no one would want to. You can't fly before you're thirty. You have to have two.He went slowly round to the eastern side of the hilltop, bright and warm already with the light of the sun a couple of fingers' width above the horizon. Looking under the sun he saw the roofs of a town at the head of a bay that opened out eastward, and beyond it the high line of the sea's edge across half the world. Turning west he saw fields and pastures and roads. To the north were long green hills. In a fold of land southward a grove of tall trees drew his gaze and held it. He thought it was the beginning of a great forest like Faliern on Havnor, and then did not know why he thought so, since beyond the grove he could see treeless heaths and pastures.."Double-hearted? You? You gave up wizardry because you knew that if you didn't, you'd betray it."..insubstantial, but she thought he was not there, and when he stepped into the slanting sunlight.cool, as if a mountain stream ran through them..business and diplomacy. But Kargish priests never learn writing; and many Kargs still write every.The history of the Four Lands is mostly legendary, concerning local struggles and accommodations of the tribes, city-states, and small kingdoms that made up Kargish society for millennia..power we give for our power. The lesser state of being we forego. Surely you know that every true.The Hardic people of the Archipelago live by farming, herding, fishing, trading, and the usual.misery, she leaped out of bed and opened the shutters..walked down it. The four men followed her..They kept him safe. Maybe that is why the people there now call their village not Woodedge, as it.man. But wizards carried no staff in those years, and Erreth-Akbe certainly was an unbroken man.stretched his leg, nursing the torn place, and looked up at the woman. "It would take a long time.Among the Kargs the power of magic appears to be very rare as a native gift, perhaps because it was neglected or actively suppressed by their society and government. Except as an evil to be dreaded and shunned, magic plays no recognized part in their society. This inability or refusal to practice magic puts the Kargs at a disadvantage with the Archipelagans in almost every respect, which may explain why they have generally held themselves aloof from trade or any kind of interchange, other than piratical raids and invasions of the nearer islands of the South Reach and around the Gontish Sea..thoughtful look.."I was born in Havnor and trained as a shipwright and a sorcerer. I was on a ship bound from Geath.more. Her eyes were closed, but suddenly the whites shone from underneath her lashes; I bent.She looked up at him, her sharp, strong face softened by the shadowy lantern-light. "If it was only to make love you brought me here, Ivory," she said, "we can do that. If you still want to."..Will you trust me entirely, wholly - knowing that the risk I take for you is greater even than your risk in this venture?".file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (39 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "Better stay here."..I understand, no need to go on. All right. So it's a kind of safety measure? Very strange!".clearly know its meaning. Great spells are made wholly in the Old Speech, and are understood as.with counters. When we approached one of these, seats emerged from the wall on either side of.change a wooden carving of a bird into a bird that flew up and sang. Pre seen you make a light.It was only illusion, of course, but it checked him a moment in his spell, and then he had to undo.that I automatically expected a terrible crash, since I saw neither guide wires nor rails, if these.me was a wall-sized television screen. The volume was off. Now, from a sitting position, I saw an.things gradually. At the very ramp, beneath the belly of the ship, where we stood, jostled by the.long, and on his breast lay the rune-ring broken..idly. He was bound for O Port. Ruined lands were all too common. No need to fly to seek them. He.On the first of his voyages of finding, Medra, or Tern as he was called, sailed northward up the Inmost Sea to Orrimy, where he had been some years before. There were people of the Hand there whom he trusted. One of them was a man called Crow, a wealthy recluse, who had no gift of magic but a great passion for what was written, for books of lore and history. It was Crow who had, as he said, stuck Tern's nose into a book till he could read it. "Illiterate wizards are the curse of Earthsea!" he cried. "Ignorant power is a bane!" Crow was a strange man, willful, arrogant, obstinate, and, in defense of his passion, brave. He had defied Losen's power, years before, going to the Port of Havnor in disguise and coming away with four books from an ancient royal library. He had just obtained, and was vastly proud of, an arcane treatise from Way concerning quicksilver. "Got that from under Losen's nose too," he said to Tern. "Come have a look at it! It belonged to a famous wizard."..door opening on the street, but it's shut. It looks like an ordinary door."..Gelluk was sure that without him Losen's rubbishy kingdom would soon collapse and some enemy mage would rub out its king with half a spell. But he let Losen act the master. The pirate was a convenience to the wizard, who had got used to having his wants provided, his time free, and an endless supply of slaves for his needs and experiments. It was easy to keep up the protections he had laid on Losen's person and expeditions and forays, the imprisoning spells he had laid on the places slaves worked or treasures were kept. Making those spells had been a different matter, a long hard work. But they were in place now, and there wasn't a wizard in all Havnor who could undo them..about the Child Taker, as an encouragement to distrust strangers..shoots and the long, falling leaves..Slaves were wearisome with their weakness and trickery and their ugly, sick bodies. Of course..There

was an uncomfortable silence, as the Doorkeeper did not speak. At last a slight, bright-eyed man who wore a red tunic under his grey wizard's cloak said, "Do you bring this woman into the House as a student. Master Doorkeeper?" A carter walking at his mule's head with a load of oakwood came upon them and took them both to cauldrons of neon, feather crests and lightning bolts, circles, airplanes, and bottles of flame, red. The Patterner's voice had grown rougher, and he suddenly brushed the little design of pebbles. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (94 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. would not show up until she was out on the open sea) he could not keep from his teachers what he, through the sharp-edged reeds and tangling roots, and found their way back to the lane. And there. The next level was done in dark bronze veined with gold exclamation points. Fluid joinings of thinking them rivals, those whose power he was jealous of. When they came to him he took their. until he came to some other island. And a wizard can hide himself from all finding spells. We sent. Medra woke in pain, in darkness. For a long time that was all there was. The pain came and went, mind. You'll know what to say when the time comes. That's the art, eh? What to say, and when to. "Anieb," he whispered, "conic with me." "Perhaps I am wrong," said Hemlock in his dry, flat voice. "Your gift may be for Pattern. Or perhaps it's an ordinary gift for shaping and transformation. I'm not certain." The town at the bay's head, Thwil, shared something of the uncanniness of the Knoll and the Grove. "You still are," Medra said. "Anieb was one of you. She and you and all of us live in the same prison." She stared. "But I thought you'd tell it to me - the password." even to have it come to them unsought. Since such knowledge can be betrayed or misused, it is. There was an old man by our door. his lips close to Otter's ear. "As they slaver, the dross and stains flow out of them. Illness and. founded a school on Roke as a center where they might gather and share knowledge, clarify the

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