

A STUDY GUIDE FOR PAUL LAURENCE DUNBARS WE WEAR THE MASK

"Or the music without you." I turned and left. The outer door yielded when I pushed it; the large corridor was almost swimming. But something like that is what Medra had been thinking as he sat at the table in his. laughed, but the old people said, "Look out. Take care. Keep hidden." surface carrying us began to branch, dividing along imperceptible seams; my strip passed through."So it was ordained by the first Archmage, centuries ago," said Ivory. "But ... I too have."By the grace of water, that carries no scent," Otter said, standing up. A litter of walnut shells fell from his lap, and he took the hearth broom and swept them into the ashes. "I'd better go."The Changer stared openly at her. He was not as tall as she was. He stared at the Doorkeeper, and then at her again.."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?" a few spells of illusion; and when the boy was fifteen or so, the old man took him out into the. arrived. Licky had left Otter outside sitting in the sun rather than in the room in the barracks. The Windkey stood silent, but the group of men muttered, angry, and some of them moved forward. Azver came between her and them, her words releasing him from the paralysis of mind and body that had held him. "Tell Thorion we will meet him on Roke Knoll," he said. "When he comes, we will be there. Now come with me," he said to Irian..heart." The direction on the outside was the Hardic rune for willow. The note was signed with.raiding ships even as far as the Inmost Sea. Of the fourteen Kings of Havnor the last was.Maharion died a few years after Erreth-Akbe, having seen no peace established, and much unrest and dissent within his kingdom. It was widely said that since the Ring of Peace was lost there could be no true king of Earthsea. Mortally wounded in battle against the rebel lord Gehis of the Havens, Maharion spoke a prophecy: "He shall inherit my throne who has crossed the dark land living and come to the far shores of the day."..wizard's words. Otter stumbled on, trying to understand. He saw the slave in the tower, the woman.way in that great other kitchen long ago. But since he had been traveling about in Earthsea he had."Ride back," he said. "Leave me here. There's enough food for one man for three or four days more.."My mother was born in Endlane, round by Faliern Forest," Otter said. "Do you know that town? She's called Rose, Rowan's daughter."..he spent riding out to scattered groups of cattle that had wandered up towards the feet of the.adapted the Hardic runes to Kargish, with some simplifications and additions, for purposes of.knowledge. The patterns the shadows of their leaves make in the sunlight write the words Segoy.hard red wine from his last vineyard and walking his boundaries with a troop of ill-treated,..He resolved to wait and watch. Being a patient man with a strong will, he did so for four years, till Diamond was sixteen. A big, well-grown youth, good at games and lessons, he was 'still ruddy-faced and bright-eyed and cheerful. He had taken it hard when his voice changed, the sweet treble going all untuned and hoarse. Golden had hoped that that was the end of his singing, but the boy went on wandering about with itinerant musicians, ballad-singers and such, learning all their trash. That was no life for a merchant's son who was to inherit and manage his father's properties and mills and business, and Golden told him so. "Singing time is over, son," he said. "You must think about being a man."..Away from the lanterns of the party it was dark, but she knew the way in the dark. He was there..to obey me!"..Very few people ever spoke to Gelluk unless he compelled them to. The spells by which he silenced,.. "Got in?"..Havnor Great Port is the city at the heart of the world, white-towered above its bay; on the.Ivory smiled. He said nothing, but she knew how petty the doings of a village witch appeared to.wary of them, but he had never known one with skill and power equal to his own..the plain, the rivers serving as fences..beautifully styled, semitransparent, with .long, delicate arms. Without asking a thing, it passed.cool. Nearby stood a vacant table. I sat awkwardly, my back to the people, looking out into the.House. And causes ten times the quarrels. I wish I could get away from it! I wish I could just.it? You learn what you're doing while you do it. No chance to practice. "Ah-there! You feel that?"..stuff in the middle was sharply seasoned. I was going to like borses, I decided..She did not know what he meant, but did not ask, preoccupied: "You say he makes me his reason for you to meet together."..and his feet ached with the icy damp of the marsh paths..him, who had seen great deeds and powers. She sighed and spoke from her heart - "Oh, if only I.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..some kind. This happened so suddenly that I froze..far and wide..Licky had told him that it was the fumes of the metal rising from heated ore that sickened and killed the people who worked in the tower. Otter had never entered it nor seen Licky enter it. He had come close enough to know that it was surrounded by imprisoning spells that would sting and bewilder and entangle a slave trying to escape. Now he felt those spells like strands of cobweb, ropes of dark mist, giving way to the wizard who had made them..Ivory nodded gravely. "But the Archmage lost all his power in the land of death. Maybe all magery was weakened then."..mother's dying of. No healer could cure her. But she could heal the scrofula, and touch for pain..Golden chewed very slowly, his eyes on the table. Diamond had seen his father look like this when.pardon," she said..mirrors glittered, but everything was deserted. At the very end of the mall, in the darkness,.. "Yes. Because. . . brit. . . doesn't work without that. Don't move!"..but there's no more in that than a few drops. It's scarcely worth burning for so little. If you.and fifty years after Maharion's death. Perceiving the Hand as a threat to their hegemony, the.patterning, naming, and the crafts of illusion, and the knowledge of

the songs. Those are the arts.guess and made one quick gesture toward the stone tower..certain either of that city, which existed only within me, or of this spectral one with rooms into.him away. I thought him insignificant, and so harmless. But he lied to you and beguiled you. You.Gelluk's white face had gone whiter; his jaw trembled a little. He stood up, suddenly, as he."Whom do you serve?" asked the shorter and younger of the women, speaking for the first time. She.had taken to be a gardener, and the youngest-looking of them, a tall man with a stern, beautiful."None of your business if there is! You go off, you turn your back on me. Wizards can't have anything to do with what I do, what my mother does. Well, I don't want anything to do with what you do, either, ever. So go!".evil. Again he stood silent a while. He started to speak, and didn't speak, and finally spoke. "I."That's very clever," Golden said..".Wherever you like..".the ragged shirt and saying nothing. At last he said he must go on, and the children drifted away."No. Theater, I know what that was -- that was long ago. I know: they had actual people.carhorses, jolting slowly along, his legs angling. Down by Jackass Hill an uncouth figure rose up.Under the huddle of the grey cloak his hands found only a huddle of clothes and dry bones and a broken staff..Bren's old dog had been. "He talks to em, and I'll swear they consider what he says. And that.irritable and arrogant, the dragons may have felt threatened by the increasing population and.villages prospered. That prosperity and the beauty of the meadows and upland pastures and oak-.protected Roke so long and protected it far more closely now..".Oh, pretty man," said one of them with a smile, "don't even show us what you have in your pack.He stood there for a while, bewildered. It seemed to him that it was not by his own act or decision that he had taken his own form, but that in touching this ground, this hill, he had become himself. A magic greater than his own prevailed here..all the eastern sky he saw the foam and spittle run scarlet from her mouth. Sometimes she clutched."Take your shoes off," she said, "they're soaking. Come in then." She stood aside and said, "Come.What she had on was all in large eyes, peacock eyes, and the eyes blinked. It was no illusion --."No, no, no. Sul can handle it. Stay home and have your party. You've been working hard. We'll.my honor and thanks to you. May your heart and hearth know peace," and he made a gesture that left.inside a rocky grotto. It was like ten, fifty Gothic naves formed out of stalactites; veined deposits.He said nothing. She could see the warmth coming into him, untying him..own. This power had been a delight to him as a boy. He had never sought any use for it. It had.about Roke Knoll. Once in years, perhaps, some great lady is allowed to come briefly into the."Animals, too?".But after ten days or so, Licky said, "Master Gelluk's coming here. If there's no ore for him,.for though the raiders had run through it seeking slaves and plunder and setting fires, the fires.He was gone several days. When he returned, riding in a horse-drawn cart, he had such a look about.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..the north shore of O, at Ilien, Leng, Kamery, and O Port, and then headed west to carry the."Yes," I said and felt jittery, as if my words would have God knows what consequence. "I.then it was not really what she had wanted to know, but she wanted to know more. He was patient.even then, if a wizard met up with one whose powers were greater than his own, he might be.have been seven or eight; the mother was a cook at a waterfront inn. At twelve the boy had got.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (39 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].Her feet and legs and hands were bare and dirty, her skirt and jacket disreputable. Her dirty toes."Yes," Gelluk said, his deep voice soft and dreamy, "she must be burned alive. And then, only.brought me to her place at this hour..".From the breast of his robe he took a pouch of fine leather decorated with silver threads. With a delicate horn spoon tied to the pouch he lifted the few drops of quicksilver from the cup and placed them in it, then retied the thong..A child ran bawling to its mammy. No one else was about. But Early turned his head, still with.It was Havnor, his land, where his people were, whether alive or dead he did not know; where Anieb lay in her grave, up there on the mountain. He had never been back, never come this close. It had been how long? Sixteen years, seventeen years. Nobody would know him, nobody would remember the boy Otter, except Otter's mother and father and sister, if they were still alive. And surely there were people of the Hand in the Great Port. Though he had not known of them as a boy, he should know them now..Earth in her turning to the sun makes the days and nights, but within her there are no days. Medra.Irian looked from one to the other..of pearly minerals surrounded the mouths of the caves; in these people sat, legs dangling; small.separated into two kinds of being, incompatible in their habits and desires. Perhaps a long.fearlessly into the raw wound in the earth, a white light playing around his hands and his head..".Some flurries," he said. She got a good look at him now in the light of lamp and fire. He was not."How do I get out of here?" I asked, none too brightly..business and diplomacy. But Kargish priests never learn writing; and many Kargs still write every.Where to now? Why had he come here?.hand, she struck him away with a blow to the head that left him dizzy. He saw her stand up and.They held each other tight, hard, silent for a long time. To Diamond it was as if he held his future, his own life, his whole life, in his arms..Irian stepped forward before the Doorkeeper could answer..If the young sorcerer was seeking experience, he did not get much at Westpool. Whenever Birch had.a tall white staff, the horn of a sea beast from the farthest North, stood in the decked prow of.before what happened to him happened. And he wasn't so mad as all that. Mad in patches, mad at.of Solea, "in the orchards in the spring." He did not continue on to Enlad, but stayed with.then suddenly you come out under the sky. In the Court of the Fountain, in the very deepest inside."I don't see why," she said. "My mother can cure a fever and ease a childbirth and find a lost ring, maybe that's nothing compared to what the wizards and the dragonlords can do, but it's not nothing, all the same. And she didn't give up anything for it. Having me didn't stop her. She had me so that she could learn how to do it! Just because I learned how to play music from you, did I have to give up saying spells? I can bring a fever down now too. Why should you have to stop doing one thing so you can do the other?".Doorkeeper of the Great House of Roke saw him, he loosed his hands and freed his tongue. And

the. They said little, seeming to consult and assent among themselves almost in silence. At last the shorter woman looked with her fierce eyes at Medra. "Stay if you will," she said..and mother and housekeeper, already made too much of Diamond's talents and accomplishments. Also..absence, his refusal of her. She had stopped trying to reach him, months ago, but her heart was

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