

## ONE NIGHT IN NOVEMBER

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..kill you for it. Keep it hid. And keep away from great people and their crafty men!" He stared at her, seeing a round-faced woman, middle-aged, short and strong, with grey in her hair..overweening confidence in the young of their kind. They expect modesty to come later, if at all.."There are. Where are you from?"..appear as formidable but feeling beings, whose anger at the invading human fleet is justified by..his hand in his mind only, as when he played the mental harp, then indeed he touched her. He felt.."Speed the work," he said gravely..The Hand, a loose-knit league or community concerned principally with the understanding and the ethical use and teaching of magic, was established by men and women on Roke Island about a hundred and fifty years after Maharion's death. Perceiving the Hand as a threat to their hegemony, the mage-warlords of Wathort raided Roke, and killed almost all the grown men of the island. But the Hand had already stretched out to other islands all around the Inmost Sea. As the Women of the Hand, the community survived for centuries, maintaining a tenuous but vigorous network of information, communication, protection, and teaching..on. But she wanted to come, and came, and I let a rope ladder out the window, and she climbed it..silence that might have been awe or disapproval or mere stolidity. "This is a nice little town,"..and talked to her for a minute, saying something in her big, delicate ear and rubbing her topknot.."That I am killing? I'm supposed to picture that?".."Of course," Golden said, pleased with his son's caution. He had thought Diamond might leap at the..The ocean, however, is older than the islands; so say the songs..We have inhabited both the actual and the imaginary realms for a long time. But we don't live in..When the city was in order again, and the ships had all come back, and the walls were being..He asked her, rather timidly, to tell him what the Immanent Grove was, for when he had asked..disposed of. It was humiliating, again, to be outwitted by the very stupidity of these people; and..Licky came back to the barracks with them. Gelluk bade Otter goodnight in his soft voice. Licky shut him as usual into the brick-walled room, giving him a loaf of bread, an onion, a jug of water..He was in fact a town boy, born in Gont Port. He had said nothing about himself, but Dulse had..go tell him that, if you like!" And so on. Old Daisy went back to her kitchen and old Coney went..training would first study the high arts of sorcery, and if successful in them might pursue

his.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (33 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]..rode down several levels, I think, and, getting off on the street at the bottom, was surprised to see.."You have-" he said-"you have to go. Back." As he said "Back," his left hand struck down on the..powers-Roke Knoll and the Immanent Grove-were never spoken of as such. Only the Patterners, who.."Moo," said his guide, softly, and he saw the dim, small square of yellow light just a little to his left..What do I want? she asked herself, and the answer came not in words but throughout her whole body..was getting hot..highly strung, and worn out, having walked forty miles in sixteen hours without food..raiders came from Wathort. Their mother hid them in a root cellar of the farm and then used her..dragons no thing.."Yes," Tern said, "and I will till she dies. And then I'll take her daughter to Roke. And if you want to read the Book of Names, you can come with us.."..direction. An unexpected emptiness, raspberry panels with glittering stars, rows of doors. The..indignant, speaking more bluntly even than usual..The witch said nothing.."Obviously," he replied with a certain caution..brother, go wash out that cut, and change your shirt. You stink of the pothouse." And she went..Deeds, lays, songs, and popular ballads are still composed as oral performances, mostly by professional singers. New works of any general interest are soon written down as broadsheets or put in compilations..She came back towards the three men, and said, "Azver.."..semblance of a fine staff, coppershod and his own height exactly. "What is the wood?" Dragonfly..How long can you stay?"..the Summoner should do so continued to shock and disturb her as she thought about it..Inmost Sea, said the man from Stormcloud, one straggling after the other like the dogs that lost.."Where am I, donkey?" he said to it. "How do I get to the town I saw?"..aren't who-or what-I thought they were, and I lose my way on islands I thought I knew by heart..The poem begins with the best known and most cherished love story in the Archipelago, that of Morred and Elfarran. In the third year of his reign, the young king went south to the largest island of the Archipelago, Havnor, to settle disputes among the city-states there. Returning in his "oarless longship," he came to the island Solea and there saw Elfarran, the Islewoman or Lady of Solea, "in the orchards in the spring." He did not continue on to Enlad, but stayed with Elfarran. To pledge his troth he gave her a silver bracelet or arm ring, the treasure of his family, on which was engraved a unique and powerful True Rune..hatch. The mites were bothering her, and she looked scruffy and jaded. He said a few words against.."Come" she said, "before you fall asleep there," and he followed her obediently to Berry's room..a sorcerer's seduction-spell of which he was contemptuous even as he made it, though he knew it..their listening silence, and rested there for days, and came back to him changed..lived all their lives in the Grove, served to link human arts and acts to the older sacredness of..masts and spars and small lumber, and replanted with chestnut seedlings. It would in time be a.."Send him on out to the dairy," said one of Alder's cowboys. "Gift's taking whatever comes." There was some sniggering and shushing..day came, and he was there. Not so evidently, so eminently, so flamboyantly there as his father..companion with him. "Look for me at the end of summer," he said to Ember..He went on to the foot of the street. It opened into a small market square. People were gathered there, not many of them. They were not buying or selling. There were no booths or stalls set up. They were waiting for him..Hemlock nodded. "That is quite understandable, among children. And quite impossible now. Do you..all he knew, but I never found anybody to give that knowledge to, until you came," he told Medra..sap, then sap," piped the shortest, who had a potbelly. On his head he

wore a tall cap..only by returning as you went could you be sure of coming out into the fields..The leaves of the trees spoke, she said, and the shadows could be read. "I am learning to read.It took him a long time to cross the cavern. He put his bad arm inside his shirt and kept his good."We went farthest east," Azver said. "But do you know what the leader of an army is, in my tongue?"..much as if she was with him, as that she was him, or that he was her. He saw through her eyes. Her."That I'm a fool."."You're singing," she said and lightly tugged at me. We walked among the tables and I away his clothes, but kept the shoes, she didn't know what for. For this fellow, it would seem..went off, still walking sore-footed, in Bren's old shoes. It made her heart turn in her, seeing."Oh I see," Rose said after a moment. "But I don't see why you ran away."..Archmage himself said, Rules are made to be broken. Injustice makes the rules, and courage breaks.your head nor theirs, see, because it would take from their power, they say'. But Ivory, poor..only in dark the light,..witches learn a few words of it; wizards learn many, and some come to speak it almost as fluently.Religion was a unifying element even among the most warlike tribes. There were hundreds of Truce."They didn't punish him, but kept his wild powers bound with spells until they could make him listen and begin to learn. It took them a long time. There was a rivalrous spirit in him that made him look on any power he did not have, any thing he did not know, as a threat, a challenge, a thing to fight against until he could defeat it. There are many boys like that. I was one. But I was lucky. I learned my lesson young..Labby, a light-skinned, flashy-looking fellow, played the double-reed woodhorn.."Well, and afterward?"."I can't. I'm terribly afraid."..them. Women had always been leaders in the league, said Ember, and women, in the guise of salve.expression. "Emer," he said, and closed his eyes again..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (61 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "Broom's a village sorcerer. This man is a wise man. He learned the High Arts at the Great House on Roke!".There was a long pause..He said nothing. In fact he was at a loss. If he had known it would be this easy, he could have had her name and with it the power to make her do whatever he wanted, days ago, weeks ago, with a mere pretence at this crazy scheme - without giving up his salary and his precarious respectability, without this sea voyage, without having to go all the way to Roke for it! For he saw the whole plan now was folly. There was no way he could disguise her that would fool the Doorkeeper for a moment. All his notions of humiliating the Masters as they had humiliated him were moonshine. Obsessed with tricking the girl, he had fallen into the trap he laid for her. Bitterly he recognized that he was always believing his own lies, caught in nets he had elaborately woven. Having made a fool of himself on Roke, he had come back to do it all over again. A great, desolate anger swelled up in him. There was no good, no good in anything..the rain-streaked open air, preventing himself from making a spell, and angry at himself for..still gangs of robbers on the roads. So Ivory left Westpool on the big wagon pulled by four big."Which level?"..if he was indeed in a plague-stricken place or an island under a curse. He went on. Between a.History.The traveler stood at the crossway and whistled back at the reeds..stream that came out of the woods to join the little river running down to the bay, Medra camped.there was no wound. Gagged and bound, without his voice and hands to work magic, he could do.before or after the time of the original novels, as well as an essay on the people, languages,..years he came forth and announced, in the words of the poem,..am Tinaral!" And his hands moved in a quick, powerful gesture, as if parting heavy curtains.."Mother," he said, on his knees there, "Mother, open to me."..prentice him to Elassen, a respectable sorcerer in Valmouth. There the boy had picked up his true.They met in the lane under Iria Hill in the dark of night, long after sunset, long before dawn. Rose made a dim glow of werelight so that they could find their way through the marshy ground around the spring without falling in a sinkhole among the reeds. In the cold darkness under a few stars and the black curve of the hill, they stripped and waded into the shallow water, their feet sinking deep in velvet mud. The witch touched the girl's hand, saying, "I take your name, child. You are no child. You have no name."..And many there said good riddance, for he'd always been half mad, and now was mad entirely..with eagerness..he come here, is what you have to ask." "To cure the beasts," Gift said.."OK. And then you'll tell me. . . ?".file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (46 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "His name."..was seventy. He still looked forty, though he felt seventy and moved like it, wincing. He got his."Oh, it's no good, I know it's no good. Nothing's any good with a drunkard," she said. She wiped.gone on past . . . that possibility . . .".him. Gelluk was powerful, masterful, strange, yet he had set him free. For the first time in weeks

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