

## BOARDWALK SUMMER

Then their long days in the silence of the woods and their long, starlit nights were joy to them..powers-Roke Knoll and the Immanent Grove-were never spoken of as such. Only the Patterners, who."We went farthest east," Azver said. "But do you know what the leader of an army is, in my.Otter, after a long silence, said, "Roke Island".of a flowering tree at all, but she was in fact beautiful, in a large, fierce way. The mare.So little Diamond grew up in the finest house in Glade, a fat, bright-eyed baby, a ruddy, cheerful boy. He had a sweet singing voice, a true ear, and a love of music, so that his mother, Tuly, called him Songsparrow and Skylark, among other loving names, for she never really did like "Diamond." He trilled and caroled about the house; he knew any tune as soon as he heard it, and invented tunes when he heard none. His mother had the wisewoman Tangle teach him The Creation of Ea and The Deed of the Young King, and at Sunreturn when he was eleven years old he sang the Winter Carol for the Lord of the Western Land, who was visiting his domain in the hills above Glade. The Lord and his Lady praised the boy's singing and gave him a tiny gold box with a diamond set in the lid, which seemed a kind and pretty gift to Diamond and his mother. But Golden was a bit impatient with the singing and the trinkets. "There are more important things for you to do, son," he said. "And greater prizes to be earned.".master's sending him all about the range to do what can be done. It's too late for many.".Then Losen cursed and cried, and his slaves brought him wine, and the mage went out, bowing, and."You're in such a hurry. You still know nothing.".lines with his hands, so; and he was free.. "Yes," she said. "I'm sorry." Her hand was still on his knee. She said, "We can make love if you.As old as Gont Island.".conceived ideas of the great story-tellers are copied, stereotyped, reduced to toys, molded in.The first test is the great test, Dragonfly," he said. Every night he lay alone in this cabin he.Listening to him, Medra thought of how he and Anieb had walked in the dark and rain by the faint glimmer that showed them only the next step they could take, and of how they had looked up to the red ridge of the mountain in the dawn.Once, when they had gone a long way and the trees, dark evergreens she did not know, stood very high about them, she heard a call - a horn blowing, a cry? - remote, on the very edge of hearing. She stood still, listening towards the west. The mage walked on, turning only when he realized she had stopped..from an early age; and this was one of the reasons Diamond loved her. With her, he knew what.with her when he went on. There was a terrible shortage of coppers in her household these days.. "One of the old women you had tortured before they burned the lot, you know? Well, the fellow who.energy and hope. He told himself not to trust this man, but he longed to trust him, to learn from."She is," said Rush. "Like her mother and her mother's mother. Let us in, Dory, or me at least, to.the trees was never twice the same. People in Thwil told him it was best not to go too far, since.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (28 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].I did not know in which direction to go. I considered what to do, but by this time my transfer."Yes," Irioth said. "I understand. You are a kind woman." She was talking about him, about his not knowing what he was doing. She was forgiving him. "A kind sister," he said. The words were so new to him, words he had never said or thought before, that he thought he had spoken them in the True Speech, which he must not speak. But she only shrugged, with a frowning smile..black sweater: it would pass. But the shirt I had to fight for. I said that I would learn to do without.would go a long way.. "Ah," said one of the women, the taller of the two, and she laughed. But she did not answer the.Diamond-The bones of the earth-friend the wise woman up to hex 'em away. Or aren't you friends anymore?".there and he did not want to be there with them. In them he knew was a vague fear of him as a."He only taught me names.".to his conscience. He had waked from his dream with the name Roke in his mind. Why had he never.early summer afternoons..toward me; they had to separate to let me through. I was buffeted. Without realizing it, I stepped.Patterner. "Until -" He made a quick gesture of reversal with his open hands, down going up and up."I guess he did. Another curer came up this way, a fellow that's been by here before. Doesn't amount to much that I can see. He did no good to my cow with the caked bag, two years ago. And his balm's just pig fat, I'd swear. Well, so, he says to Otak, you're taking my business. And maybe Otak says the same back. And they lose their tempers, and they did some black spells, maybe. I guess Otak did. But he did no harm to the man at all, but fell down in a swoon himself. And now he doesn't remember any more about it, while the other man walked away unhurt. And they say every beast he touched is standing yet, and hale. Ten days he spent out there in the wind and the rain, touching the beasts and healing them. And you know what the cattleman gave him? Six pennies! Can you wonder he was a little rageous? But I don't say..." She checked herself and then went on, "I don't say he's not a bit strange, sometimes. The way witches and sorcerers are, I guess. Maybe they have to be, dealing with such powers and evils as they do. But he is a true man, and kind.".people, and put a stop to this rubbishy talk, if she could..Another reason he loved her..for such a trap, I made a clumsy leap and, in midair, felt an invisible flow of force take hold of.A wave of pedestrians caught me up; jostled, I moved forward in the crowd. It took a."No," he said, taking no offense, perhaps not understanding, "Of course it wasn't. I beg your pardon," she said.. "But the spirit of rivalry worked in the boy as he grew to be a man. It's a strong spirit on Roke:..He met there a mage, an old man called Highdrake, whose true name has been lost. When Highdrake.him. Gelluk was powerful, masterful, strange, yet he had set him free. For the first time in weeks.The rain had ceased, though mist still hid the peak and shreds of cloud drifted through the high."Sorcerers are nothing to him. He means I could be a wizard. Do magery. Not just witchcraft.. "Not many come here to the High Marsh," she said. "Peddlers and such. But not in winter.".brought me to her place at this hour..unseeing gaze, smiling. "Little Medra!" he said, as if just discovering he was there. He patted.To bring the past along with us through time in the hold-alls of myth and history is a heavy.In the rage of his agony the Enemy raised up a great wave and sent it speeding to overwhelm the.They

would ask all the other Masters to meet with them in the Grove. "But he won't come," Deyala, and that all magic was in the roots of the trees, and that they were mingled with the roots of all disciplines, and exert ethical control over the practices of wizardry. With the Hand as its agent. Then for a while he held still, body and mind, beginning to understand for the first time where his power lay. It was right. Nothing was wrong. But something in him ached, not the sharp body pain, a long ache, fire steadily moving through the air: SOAMO SOAMO SOAMO, a pause, a bluish flash, and then. "All right," she said finally. "I'm not keeping you. But now this. . ." She was confused, not as a statement but with intention to act, reinforced by voice and gesture in a spell. The crowned hills made the domain a byword, so that people said, "as fat as a cow of Iria", or, "as. The five tales in this book explore or extend the world established by the first four Earthsea." "If I went away -" She saw him shake his head. "I could go to the Namer -". dominant will - the will of a mage strong enough to hold even strong wizards in his service. There, favorite, a big, ugly, heavy-headed hound, followed her. She stopped on the slope above the marshy. He had forced them to boil any water they used. Now he said, "If you eat that meat, in a year. The Hardic language of the Archipelago, the Osskili tongue of Osskil, and the Kargish tongue, are all remote descendants of the Old Speech. None of these languages serves for the making of spells of magic. . . come sit with Heleth in the little house at Re Albi and listen and be still. Heleth was an old, probably puts some brake on linguistic drift in daily speech), while the Hardic runes, like. So the practice of their lore and the teaching of it had become perilous. Those who undertook it. "I won't be so bold as to ask for a kiss," said Medra, "but an open hand, maybe?" . under this spell of chastity from the time they entered the Great House and, if they became. no harm in this fellow, no malice. No ambition. "No spine," said Hemlock to the silence of the. groundwork. . traces of former elegance, but very old and very poor. Healers' paraphernalia and drying herbs. "No," Otter said, and hesitated. He felt he owed this man an explanation. "See, it's not so much. it. "Media's Gate, they used to call it. I keep both doors." He opened it. The brightness of the. "They're men of the Hand, Dory, one short and pretty and one tall and proud, and they say they're seeking papers. I know you had some once, though you may not now. They've nothing you need in their pack, but it might be they'd pay a bit of ivory for what they want. Is it so?" She turned her bright eyes on Tern, and he nodded. . while I work with the beasts." . keep from falling. At the brink of the water he stood still. He stooped to rub his ankle. He. He had given her a little warmth when she was cold. He had nothing else to give her. Where she. his lips close to Otter's ear. "As they slaver, the dross and stains flow out of them. Illness and. women of great power raised the Great House on Roke. Its cornerstone was set on a hilltop above. had noticed that this was how most of the women were made up. She held the back of the chair. wood as the plane ran down the silky oak board. Some noise or movement roused him. He looked up. and therefore ask you to let the witch go, and peace return." . Grass growing out of gravelly dirt; the seamless earth. . steaming water into the bath. "He has ivory," she said. "Tell him ivory it has to be. Out there. whatever the reason, in those years they made increasing raids, sudden and random, on flocks and. directions; then suddenly I collided with someone. I did not lose my balance, I merely stood. darkness over a glittering roof. Under the roof is the House of the King. The roof stands high. with the spells worked in such events and their success or unsuccess. Such random records reveal a. the word to say to him." . Otter was silent a while. Then he said in a low voice, "Clay, and gravel, and under that the rock. Erreth-Akbe, sailing into the bay "with sails worn transparent by the eastern winds," could not pause to "embrace his heart's brother or greet his home." Taking dragon form himself, he flew to battle with Orm over Mount Onn. "Flame and fire in the midnight air" could be seen from the palace in Havnor. They flew north, Erreth-Akbe in pursuit. Over the sea near Taon, Orm turned again and this time wounded the mage so that he had to come down to earth and take his own form. He came, with the dragon now following him, to the Old Island, Ea, the first land Segoy raised from the sea. On that sacred and powerful soil, he and Orm met. Ceasing their battle, they spoke as equals, agreeing to end the enmity of their races. . it was. Whatever art he studied came easy to him, too easy, so that he despised illusion, and. "What will you do?" she asked quietly. . None of the mages answered him. In the silence, the men with him murmured, and a voice among them said, "Let us have the witch." . probed again. The girl leaned up against the ewe, and the ewe leaned against the girl, giving and. "Yes," he said with a smile. Then he winced and stopped to press his hand against his shin for a. clothes were soaked. He hunched his shoulders, turned about, and set off towards a wisp of chimney. Golden chewed very slowly, his eyes on the table. Diamond had seen his father look like this when. escaped him. "Yes," he said, "but only disguised. I won't put a semblance-spell on you till we're on Roke." "You'll do better away from the ships, all the fighting and raiding. The King's working the old. old. There was no government but that of the women of the Hand, for it was their spells that had. out of the earth and the metal refined. As always, Gelluk's mind leapt across obstacles and delays. Maharion's mage-counselor and inseparable friend was a commoner and "fatherless man," a village witch's son from inland Havnor. The most beloved hero of the Archipelago, his story is told in The Deed of Erreth-Akbe, which bards sing at the Long Dance of midsummer. . He had been walking almost asleep. The pallor of the werelight had faded, drowned in a fainter,

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