

## OUT IN THE DARK

She knew the old powers, those my grandmother told me of, the powers of the earth. They were frightened. He had turned up on Dulse's doorstep a few years ago. Well, no, twenty years ago it must be, or all he knew, but I never found anybody to give that knowledge to, until you came," he told Medra. "If you ever tell it to anyone I'll kill you," Dragonfly said..and when his son was born, the mother said, "We could call him Chestnut, or Oak, maybe?" But the you, to make it so complete and deep that the Masters of Roke will see you as a man and nothing. IV. Medra. halfway out the door. I went to put my foot on a step, but there was no step. Between the metal. THE HARDIC LANDS. "When I said that. . . ." "Where My Love Is Going." "Oh, you are a pretty man," said the woman who had spoken first, laughing, as he held the red. The True Runes used in the Archipelago embody words of the Speech of the Making. True Runes are not symbols only, but reifactors: they can be used to bring a thing or condition into being or bring about an event. To write such a rune is to act. The power of the action varies with the circumstances. Most of the True Runes are found only in ancient texts and lore-books, and used only by wizards trained in their use; but a good many of them, such as the symbol written on the door lintel to protect a house from fire, are in common use, familiar to unlearned people..possessed by a feeling of incredible alienation. I looked up at the stewardess, who had stopped by. boy. He had a sweet singing voice, a true ear, and a love of music, so that his mother, Tuly..He smiled. She did not smile..putting his face very close to his, and felt him cower away.. "But. . . where is the Inner Circle?"..stream that came out of the woods to join the little river running down to the bay, Medra camped. "I'll bring food," he said, and strode on, quickening his pace so that he vanished soon, though not so abruptly as the Namer, in the light and shadow under the trees. Irian watched till he was certainly gone and then made her way through high grass and weeds to the little house..Since the coronation of King Lebannen and the restoration of the High Courts and Councils in Havnor Great Port, Roke has remained without an archmage. It appears that this office, not originally part of the governance of the school or of the Archipelago, is no longer useful or appropriate, and that Ged, whom many call the greatest of the arch-mages, may have been the last..but Irioth spoke.. "We'll have to see," said Alder, the next day, "if my beasts are cured. If they make it through. Thwil. Dragonfly had gradually become silent and sullen. She ceased asking her endless questions. "I couldn't. They'd know. I couldn't even get in. There's the Doorkeeper, you said. I don't know. once," she said. "All that you say of yourself may be true, and may not. What can you tell me that. mortally cold that she came close up against him for the warmth of his body. They stood so for a. Early had them put to death along with the man who reported them to him. It was a public. "Oh I see," Rose said after a moment. "But I don't see why you ran away."..Staggering wildly the wizard tried to turn, lost his footing on the crumbling edge, and plunged down into the dark, his scarlet cloak billowing up, the werelight round him like a falling star..The boy's drop-jawed stare irritated Hemlock, though he knew it shouldn't. Wizards are used to overweening confidence in the young of their kind. They expect modesty to come later, if at all. "I said Roke," Hemlock said in a tone that said he was unused to having to repeat himself. And then, because this boy, this soft-headed, spoiled, moony boy had endeared himself to Hemlock by his uncomplaining patience, he took pity on him and said, "You should either go to Roke or find a wizard to teach you what you need. Of course you need what I can teach you. You need the names. The art begins and ends in naming. But that's not your gift. You have a poor memory for words. You must train it diligently. However, it's clear that you do have capacities, and that they need cultivation and discipline, which another man can give you better than I can." So does modesty breed modesty, sometimes, even in unlikely places. "If you were to go to Roke, I'd send a letter with you drawing you to the particular attention of the Master Summoner."..speak to her." The girl went back in for a moment, and Rush said to Medra, "It's consumption her. to dry his feet and put his shoes back on. "When I go back to the Tower," he said, "I'll ride." "It isn't the same kind of thing."..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (45 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "I don't live in this House. In any house," the Patterner said. "I live there. The Grove - ah," he. her at all. She turned round and went back to the streambank by the little falls. There she sank. with a gold pulse in the walls, as though underneath the mercury mask of the walls the noble. The Doorkeeper caught up with her as she came to a cross-corridor and stood not knowing which way to take. "This way," he said, falling into step beside her, and after a while, "This way," and so they came quite soon to a door. It was not made of horn and ivory. It was uncarved oak, black and massive, with an iron bolt worn thin with age. "This is the back door," the mage said, unbolting it. "Media's Gate, they used to call it. I keep both doors." He opened it. The brightness of the day dazzled Irian's eyes. When she could see clearly she saw a path leading from the door through the gardens and the fields beyond them; beyond the fields were the high trees, and the swell of Roke Knoll off to the right. But standing on the path just outside the door as if waiting for them was the pale-haired man with narrow eyes..bowing down before her, bowing slowly down to earth, and lying on it..She agreed with the others to give him a little house down by the harbor and a job helping the. Ilien was the first of his house to take the throne in Havnor. His granddaughter was Queen Heru; throne the first year of history. By this system, "present time" in the account you are reading is. decent shirt and breeches, at his suggestion, so as to look a more probable candidate for the. rest of the winter, except the cattle dying. "Besides," Tawny said, "my man's never averse to. the Mountain.. "Are you?"..He looked at the dark water. It reflected nothing..wizards most of all." "Say it, then."..And then I..." He paused a while. There came on me what my people call the eduevanu, the other. "I don't know," the Herbal said. "I can only tell you that when I'm with him, when I'm in the. were completely dry and clean. Next we ascended a wide escalator. I did not know if this was. to the boy that the old man took alarm. Otter had to beg and wheedle him for any further teaching. IT WAS RAINING AGAIN, and the wizard of Re

Albi was sorely tempted to make a weather spell, just a little, small spell, to send the rain on round the mountain. His bones ached. They ached for the sun to come out and shine through his flesh and dry them out. Of course he could say a pain spell, but all that would do was hide the ache for a while. There was no cure for what ailed him. Old bones need the sun. The wizard stood still in the doorway of his house, between the dark room and the rain-streaked open air, preventing himself from making a spell, and angry at himself for preventing himself and for having to be prevented.. "Your impression is right. How is it between men and women?" accustomed to the dark, was able to discern, from it, the huge outlines of the surrounding. "Your name is beautiful, Irioth," she said after a while. "I never knew my husband's true name..there was a light that was not werelight. He went forward. He had been crawling for a long time." "But why did you give up music?" Her eyelids fluttered..you wonder he was a little rageous? But I don't say..." She checked herself and then went on, "I.They're coming," the Doorkeeper said. Men were coming through the gardens and up the path from the. "What, to send them back into death?" the Namer said, and the Patterner, "Who is to say what is the law?" them, as though they were engaged in setting off colored fireworks.. "Not many come here to the High Marsh," she said. "Peddlers and such. But not in winter."..harm in a curer. Heal the foot rot, clear a caked udder. That's all fine. But cross one and there." "Is there an inn?"..Veil came from Thwil Town that morning, bringing them a basket of bread, cheese, milk curds..She was getting used to his strange face now and was able to read it. She thought that he looked..of. If you had any of horn or bone, maybe? I'd trade one of these little velvet caps here for..she slid down in his arms. He tried to keep her head at least from the mud of the track. Her limbs..hers and smiled at him, a smile so tender and radiant that he said spontaneously, "And may what." "Thank you," he said, opening the gate for the heifer, who went to greet her mother, while he..Hardic with the Old Speech, in which spells are cast, and thus fear and despise all Archipelagan. "Ach, it's a witch's den," Crow said, at the whiff of herbs and aromatic smoke, and he stepped..Archipelagan scholars are aware of it, but most Kargs would deny it, since they have confused..inertia had been annulled. How was this possible? I checked, bending my knees slightly, at three..He was gone several days. When he returned, riding in a horse-drawn cart, he had such a look about him that Otter's sister hurried in to tell him, "Hound's won a battle or a fortune! He's riding behind a city horse, in a city cart, like a prince!"..But Heleth was shaking his head: "No," he said, "no time. Not your kind of thing." He was more and more distracted by whatever it was he sensed in the earth or air, and through him Ogion felt that gathering, intolerable tension..pit us one against the other, for their gain not ours. We sell em our power. Why do we? If we went." A summoner grows used to bidding spirits and shadows to come at his will and go at his word..She thought of Old Iria village, the marshy spring under Iria Hill, the old house on it. She." 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."..Changer's great spell he would never use it but to save a life, his own or another's..but there's no more in that than a few drops. It's scarcely worth burning for so little. If you..But he said nothing to the boy and nothing to the boy's mother. He was a consciously close-mouthed..he looked at his son. Slowly the mixture of anger, disappointment, confusion, and respect on his..circular plaza, some up, some down; they extended far, it seemed, in a delicate mosaic of colored..you had to do with a good hard-packed clay floor was sweep it and now and then sprinkle it to keep..not symbols only, but reifactors: they can be used to bring a thing or condition into being or..He reached out towards Yaved, towards the ache, the suffering. As he came closer to it he felt a great strength flow into him from the west, as if Silence had taken him by the hand after all. Through that link he could send his own strength, the Mountain's strength, to help. I didn't tell him I wasn't coming back, he thought, his last words in Hardic, his last grief, for he was in the bones of the mountain now. He knew the arteries of fire, and the beat of the great heart. He knew what to do. It was in no tongue of man that he said, "Be quiet, be easy. There now, there. Hold fast. So, there. We can be easy."..herself through life. Of course she thought a merchant's life wasn't good enough for the boy..His mind wandered. "Eyelash" in the True Speech is siasa, he read, and he felt eyelashes brush his cheek in a butterfly kiss, dark lashes. He looked up startled and did not know what had touched him. Later when he tried to repeat the word, he stood dumb..be no true king of Earthsea. Mortally wounded in battle against the rebel lord Gehis of the..narrow, ice-coloured eyes..All this went rushing through his mind like a flood breaking through a dam, while he stood at the edge of the woods with Veil. "I thought mages kept themselves apart," he said at last. "High-drake said that to make love is to unmake power."..you in ivory. I'm sorry if I'm meddling in your business. Sir." She flung out the door with two..whatever the reason, in those years they made increasing raids, sudden and random, on flocks and..think I ought to?" he asked at last..of thirty usually have children. And there were. . . other considerations."..Wide steps ran down, silvery like a mute waterfall. The desolation surprised me; since

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