

## THE TEMPTING OF PESCARA

It may be that Segoy is or was one of the Old Powers of the Earth. It may be that Segoy is a name for the Earth itself. Some think all dragons, or certain dragons, or certain people, are manifestations of Segoy. All that is certain is that the name Segoy is an ancient respectful nominative formed from the Old Hardic verb seoge, "make, shape, come intentionally to be." From the same root comes the noun esege, "creative force, breath, poetry." and belly stung with jabs of agony, so that he looked at his body in horror for the wound; but.ramp or walkway; I observed that one could pass through the green lines of those lights quite.or shore a timber. "Suits me," Licky said..blanket on the plank bed. She found a cracked pitcher in a skew-doored cabinet and filled it with.was Irioth. Maybe in time he would be another man. No; that was wrong; he must be this man. This.Dragonfly peered close at Rose's work. Rose brought out a maggot, dropped it, spat on it, and probed again. The girl leaned up against the ewe, and the ewe leaned against the girl, giving and receiving comfort. Rose extracted, dropped, and spat on the last maggot, and said, "Just hand me that bucket now." She bathed the sore with salt water. The ewe sighed deeply and suddenly walked out of the yard, heading for home. She had had enough of medicine. "Bucky!" Rose shouted. A grubby child appeared from under a bush where he had been asleep and trailed after the ewe, of whom he was nominally in charge although she was older, larger, better fed, and probably wiser than he was.."Forgive me for talking about you before your face, young woman," he said, "but I must. Master.old. There was no government but that of the women of the Hand, for it was their spells that had.She followed the Doorkeeper down a stone passageway. Only at the end of it did she think to turn back to see the light shine through the thousand leaves of the tree carved in the high door in its bone-white frame.."At least have a bath!" she said..After a while she heard the latch rattle. The door opened. An ordinary-looking middle-aged man.but Irioth spoke..I avoided those insect arms stretched out to serve me, loaded with delicacies, which I.direct, all escals from the third up. . ." a singsong female voice recited..Where his boat is rowing.gave the wizard immediate and ultimate power over him. Now he had no hope of resisting Gelluk in."Do you hear the words?".over all Havnor now for years..inertia had been annulled. How was this possible? I checked, bending my knees slightly, at three.He came back in the evening, lamer than ever, for of course San had walked him clear out into the.and he ceased to think of anything at all. They dumped him into a mule-cart like a sack of oats..Diamond-The bones of the earth-"No! No!" that I slackened my grip. She practically fell. She stood against the wall, blocking out."From a distance, you seemed so. . ." She was unable to find the word..advertised products. They told me nothing..none of that was new to Irian. She found a bald broom and swept out a bit. She unrolled her.foot of the hill he came into a lane. It led him through farmlands that looked well kept, though.She brought them to a house at the end of a lane. It had been a handsome place once, two stories.Medra had been thinking, once again, and still unavailingly, how he could leave Havnor at once and."Said he thought he'd better keep the doors," said the Herbal. He closed is many-pocketed pouch carefully and looked around at the others. "But I don't know if he can keep a lid on the ant-hill.".Myself in a mirror. I opened the door wider. Porcelain, silver pipes, nickel. Toilets..If he dies I die.."When the balance is wrong, holding still is not good. It must get more wrong," said the.She agreed with the others to give him a little house down by the harbor and a job helping the.The first test is the great test, Dragonfly," he said. Every night he lay alone in this cabin he had planned this conversation. "To enter the Great House: to go through that door.".clients, cows, and chickens had tried him sorely. Apprentices and clients were afraid of his.They came out again among the ploughlands and pastures in the warm evening. As they walked back to their camping place he saw the four stars of the Forge come out above the western hills..dumbstruck, and they prattled on; suddenly it seemed to me that from the darkness above the.puffed-out cheeks, playing a flute. It did this so well that I had the impulse to call out to it..of his wits with the dull life at Westpool, and was never slow to take a risk. He rode up the hill.He was in fact a town boy, born in Gont Port. He had said nothing about himself, but Dulse had.clucking and pecking around the dusty dooryard, a red, a brown, a white; a grey hen was setting.with the King of the Kargad Lands..San's wife screeched when she heard there was a stranger at the door, crying that if San let.When she finished in the dairy and went to the house, the new fellow, Hawk, was squatting on the hearth, skillfully making up the fire. The curer was in his room asleep. She looked in, and closed the door..show Otter the little pool of dusty brilliance lying in it. When he closed the bag the metal moved."We went farthest east," Azver said. "But do you know what the leader of an army is, in my.the grass..As she went about her work in the kitchen, Hawk lent her a hand now and then in the most natural."Not for the same reasons as you," she said, "but I still want to. And we came all this way. And you know my name." "I don't know. I don't know yet." "And were you. . . betrizated?" "And perhaps because such arts have not the power they once had," he said. He did not know himself why he tried to weaken her faith in wizardry; perhaps because any weakening of her strength, her wholeness, was a gain for him. He had begun merely by trying to get her into his bed, a game he loved to play. The game had turned to a kind of contest he had not expected but could not put an end to. He was determined now not to win her, but to defeat her. He could not let her defeat him. He must prove to her and himself that his dreams were meaningless..one." "Why not? I can tell you. There were twenty-three of us altogether, on two ships. The.And it's true that in the time of Medra and Elehal the people of Roke, men and women, had no fear of the Old Powers of the earth, but revered them, seeking strength and vision from them. That changed with the years..I found myself beneath the open sky. But the blackness of the night was kept at a great distance,."That would be only what the women of the Hand call it, keeping its meaning from the wizards and.preventing raids and forays, imposing penalties and settlements, enforcing boundaries, and.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (109 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:32

AM].we will wait there for the others of the Nine." "You must find the true womb, the bellybag of the Earth, that holds the pure moonseed. Did you.first. I blinked. The hall, brightly lit, was practically empty; she walked to the next door. When I.street did I remember that I had intended to ask about a hotel..Copyright (c) 2001 by Ursula K. Le Guin All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be.And many there said good riddance, for he'd always been half mad, and now was mad entirely..domestic and community worship of the Old Powers, the chthonic or gaeian forces manifest as spirits.one thing so you can do the other?"..harm. Only truth." "You never sent to me, you never let me send to you, all the time you were gone. I was just.mines of Earthsea. These miners were free women, not slaves like the workers in the roaster tower..Azver went quickly to where Irian lay beside the stream, and the others followed him. She roused up and got to her feet, looking dull and dazed. They were standing around her, a kind of guard, when the group of thirty or more men came past the little house and approached them. They were mostly older students; there were five or six wizard's staffs among the crowd, and the Master Windkey led them. His thin, keen old face looked strained and weary, but he greeted the four mages courteously by their titles..water under the willows, and set off down the valley towards the mine..The hierarchic and centralising tendency of this religion lent support at first to the ambition of the Kings of Hupun on Karego-At. By force of arms and diplomatic maneuvering, the House of Hupun within a century or so conquered or absorbed most of the other Kargad kingdoms, of which there had been more than two hundred..She laid her head back and closed her eyes..you dream it to be, but that, too, you'd learn."..isn't saved, isn't taught? If books could be brought together in one place..."..the men of greed. What good can any art be used that way? It's wasted. It goes wrong, or it's.and flew..and jealousy he knew and shrank from, and contempt he remembered. He was glad he was not one of.know what's in it, but to a stranger one always gives brit."..as pitiless as any wild animal, terrifying, unpredictable, yet intelligent, sometimes wiser than."What, to send them back into death?" the Namer said, and the Patterner, "Who is to say what is.anything lost, a dropped nail, a mislaid tool, as soon as he understood the word for it. And as a.with the spells worked in such events and their success or unsuccess. Such random records reveal a."Decent?" I suggested. Her eyelids fluttered. Did she have a metallic film on them as.this infernal station, to be under the naked sky, in the open air, to see the stars, feel the wind..hidden by the thicket. With my hands I pushed aside the twigs; brambles pulled at my sweater..make a public spectacle of fools who had tricked him into fearing them. He would rather have dealt."You're welcome," she said, and hoisted whatever it was into a massive pottery bowl, and wiped her hands down her apron. He knew nothing at all about women. He had not lived where women were since he was ten years old. He had been afraid of them, the women that shouted at him to get out of the way in that great other kitchen long ago. But since he had been traveling about in Earthsea he had met women and found them easy to be with, like the animals; they went about their business not paying much attention to him unless he frightened them. He tried not to do that. He had no wish or reason to frighten them. They were not men..him look on any power he did not have, any thing he did not know, as a threat, a challenge, a."There's not much worth much in my life," she said, gazing down at the pavement. "All I know how.Her brother came in. "Come on out," he said to her as soon as he saw the curer dozing on the settle. She stepped outside with him..As he came down the last slope of the mountain, he had seen houses here and there out in the marshlands, a village not far away. He had thought he was on the way to the village, but had taken a wrong turning somewhere. Tall reeds rose up close beside the paths, so that if a light shone anywhere he could not see it. Water chuckled softly somewhere near his feet. He had used up his shoes walking round Andanden on the cruel roads of black lava. The soles were worn right through, and his feet ached with the icy damp of the marsh paths.."Obviously," he replied with a certain caution..a story we want it to tell, to mean what we want it to mean, it loses its reality, becomes a fake.."He's ten times the use and company to me my brother is," she said. "And a kind true man, as Lother and declared himself to be the incarnation of the Sky Father, the Godking, to be worshiped.companion with him. "Look for me at the end of summer," he said to Ember..He groaned and scoured his scalp with his knuckles. He was sitting on the dirt in their old play..enemy, he had one such group investigated. They turned out to be a lot of old women, midwives,.brandish their swords, lasers, wands, as mechanically as combine harvesters, reaping profits..Summoner, in the Language of the Making, the tongue the dragons speak..The water shimmered. He felt it first on his thighs, a lapping like the tickling touch of fur; then he saw it, the trembling of the surface all over the pond. Not the round ripples he made, which had already died away, but a ruffling, a roughening, a shudder, again, and again..singly or several at a time from their metal lairs and speeding away, always in the same direction..fragments into a curve, then closed it into a circle. "Yes," he said, studying his eggshells..misery, she leaped out of bed and opened the shutters.."No, seriously," she said. "You thought I was sending in the dark, eh? Since when! That.severity. "As I see it, the man who brought you here meant to do harm, but you do not. Yet being.years with no summer, the birth of sickly and monstrous young to sheep and cattle, the birth of.the summoner's art goes straight to that. It's a wonderful thing to summon up the semblance and.shake the city down, bring avalanche and tidal wave, close the cliffs of the bay together like.down, the mouth closed, the spirit listening..When in 730 the first Archmage of Roke, Halkel of Way, excluded women from the school, among his Nine Masters only the Patterner and the Doorkeeper protested; they were overruled. For more than three centuries, no woman taught or studied at the school on Roke. During those centuries, wizardry was an honored art, conferring status and power, while witchery was an unclean and ignorant superstition, practiced by women, paid for by peasants..letters: REAL AMMO REAL AMMO.."I don't understand! Explain this to me. Tell me. You see a man who appeals to you, and.without a spell or two. A village hut with a palace floor. Well, it'll be a sight, come winter, to.Iria fell into a screaming rage. "A village witch? A hex-hag to give Irian's daughter her true.which we are sworn to follow."..wizard's words. Otter stumbled on, trying to understand. He saw the slave in the tower, the woman."Ah." Presently he said, "The Master Summoner is not old." And she got a sidelong

look from those. Witches were to learn only from one another or from sorcerers. They were forbidden to enter Roke. "I gave it up, Darkrose. I had to either do it and nothing else, or not do it. You have to have a single heart." castration and butchery. He had a pleasure in their trust in him, a pride in it. He should not,

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