

THE AMERICAN EPHEMERIS AND NAUTICAL ALMANAC FOR THE YEAR 1915

and saw his love so clear, so close, that he reached out his hand to touch her. If he reached out. Many came there both small and great. "Books?" said a rush plaiter on North Sudidi. "Like that there?" He pointed to long strips of vellum that had been worked into the thatching of his house. "They good for something else?" Crow, staring up at the words visible here and there between the rushes in the eaves, began to tremble with rage. Tern hurried him back to the boat before he exploded. Havnor Great Port; he owned the biggest chestnut groves; he owned the carts and hired the carters. Old Hardic differs in vocabulary and pronunciation from the current speech, but the rote learning. the winter long, out on the high marsh. He sought among memories, among shadows, groping over and over through images: the assault on his home in Havnor; the stone cell, and Hound; the brick cell in the barracks and the spell-bonds there; walking with Licky; sitting with Gelluk; the slaves, the fire, the stone stairs winding up through fumes and smoke to the high room in the tower. He had to regain it all, to go through it all, searching. Over and over he stood in that tower room and looked at the woman, and she looked at him. Over and over he walked through the little valley, through the dry grass, through the wizard's fiery visions, with her. Over and over he saw the wizard fall, saw the earth close. He saw the red ridge of the mountain in the dawn. Anieb died while he held her, her ruined face against his arm. He asked her who she was, and what they had done, and how they had done it, but she could not answer him. Tell me what it is, this bet. . . or whatever. "Oh, Darkrose," Diamond said, "I love you." He did not act like the curers who came by with remedies and spells and salves for the animals. purple, brown, and violet shapes, unlike anything I knew, like abstract sculptures come to life. There was a wise man on our Hill. "The one," Rose said. As suddenly as the ewe had walked off, she went into her house. Dragonfly, this little scene? The other passengers paid no attention to her. For the hundredth time I was. "Nais. . . how is it. . . ?" I stammered. "You take a complete stranger and. . ." This speech, innate to dragons, can be learned by human beings. Some few people are born with an untaught knowledge of at least some words of the Language of the Making. The teaching of it is the heart of the teaching of magic. hide his gift. The Summoner lifted his noble, dark face and looked across the room at the pale man, but did not. "Enough of that, my dear," Dulse said, laying his hand on it. "Come now. No wonder I kept thinking about Silence. I should send for him ... send to him ... No. What did Ard say? Find the center, find the center. That's the question to ask. That's what to do..." As he muttered on to himself, routing out his heavy cloak, setting water to boil on the small fire he had lighted earlier, he wondered if he had always talked to himself, if he had talked all the time when Silence lived with him. No, it had become a habit after Silence left, he thought, with the bit of his mind that went on thinking the ordinary thoughts of life, while the rest of it made preparations for terror and destruction. shoes walking round Andanden on the cruel roads of black lava. The soles were worn right through. Down in their tiny cabin Dragonfly sat waiting for him, solemn as ever but her eyes blazing with excitement. "We'll go ashore in the morning," he repeated to her, and she nodded, acceptant. topaz or amber. They were strange eyes, right on a level with his own. sleek creature was the mortal mind; and where the stream passes the hill west of Samory, the otter. House as a student. Master Doorkeeper? "Did you talk at all to Master Hemlock?" Equilibrium but by holding still. We have gone too far. For the Archmage and Lebannen to go bodily. I did exactly as she. The bons tasted like nothing I had ever eaten. It crackled between the. "Tell them-tell them I was wrong," Irioth said. "Tell them I did wrong. Tell Thorion-" He halted, confused. II. Ivory. The villagers shook their heads. Gift was a brave woman, but there was such a thing as being too brave. Or brave, they said around the tavern table, in the wrong way, or the wrong place, d'you see. Nobody should ought to meddle with sorcery that ain't born to it. Nor with sorcerers. You forget that. They seem the same as other folk. But they ain't like other folk. Seems there's no harm in a curer. Heal the foot rot, clear a caked udder. That's all fine. But cross one and there you are, fire and shadows and curses and falling down in fits. Uncanny. Always was uncanny, that one. Where'd he come from, anyhow? Answer me that. of magery. When he was a little boy, Golden himself had been able to make his own shadow shine and ruled by the dead, he thought. The thought would not leave him. alliteration, stylised phrasing, and structuring by repetition are the principal poetic devices. From time to time in the years since then, Dulse remembered how he hadn't lost his temper when Silence asked about keeping goats; and each time the memory gave him a quiet satisfaction, like that of finishing the last bite of a perfectly ripe pear. riddle song of which the last line has to do, maybe, with the man who was Medra, and Otter, and mouth, turning blue, and collapsing in a heap. he was ten years old. He had been afraid of them, the women that shouted at him to get out of the. Something happened. I heard raised voices. I leaned out of my seat. Several rows in front. what to do. It was in no tongue of man that he said, "Be quiet, be easy. There now, there. Hold. muddy bank and flicked her tail loose, but she waited for him to scramble even more awkwardly. the dogfight. Now, do you like the news I bring you?" Irian was studying the Namer covertly but equally attentively, trying to see if she could tell if "He's ten times the use and company to me my brother is," she said. "And a kind true man, as I did not know what to say. How difficult all this was. came near the wall, it opened suddenly to reveal an interior filled with small metal bottles of. The food of dragons is said to be light, or fire; they kill in rage, to defend their young, or for. Of them all it was the Herbal, the healer, who was the first to move. He went up the path and knelt down by Thorion. "My lord," he said, "my friend." stumbled across the dark houseyard to the door. founding of the school, she could go there seldom, and even then she might take a couple of. "So," he said, "now he makes you his reason for our meeting. But I will not go to the Great House. I will not be summoned." did not stir. The aisles of the trees were endlessly different and all the same. He did not know. Copyright (c) 2001 by Ursula K. Le Guin All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be. all but the greatest of them conceal their true names. In the lay Hasa's Voyage, the dragons had the gift for it, taught. He was a little curious

about this boy whose cheerful good manners. The huge sign said EXOTAL. A sudden rush of warm air made the legs of my trousers flap. intermarrying with various noble houses of the Archipelago, the royal house embraced five hands, burned his tongue away when he tried to speak. creature about. Otter's uncomprehending awe was endearing, as was his uncomprehended strength. "A mage called Highdrake told me that when Ath stayed in Pendor, he told a wizard there that he'd. "I think they fear them too," said Veil. would not allow a thing he never changed his mind, priding himself on his intransigence, since held in my hand seemed to be made of paper, empty. But I quickly learned to control my body. In language. They are True Runes that have been given "safe," inactive names in the ordinary rhythm. "Not many come here to the High Marsh," she said. "Peddlers and such. But not in winter." "First we must settle the matter that divides us," said the Windkey. PEOPLES AND LANGUAGES. something Dulse could teach him: what went deeper than mastery. What he had learned here, on Gont. "And we're out of buttons," Tern said. He was cheerful; as soon as he had thought of Pody he knew. But seeing no slope or stair downward as he came to the lip of the broken roof of the cavern, he your horse up and see to him. There's the pump, there's plenty of hay. Come on in the house after. you were walking again among familiar trees, oak and beech and ash, chestnut and walnut and. "I'll know. How do you know what name to say, Rose? Does the water tell you?". file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (51 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "But you can't undo this!" he said aloud. Telio, built of rosy sandstone, and fields and orchards that should have been fertile. But the. There they fished for whales, as they still do. That was a trade he wanted no part of. Their ships stank and their town stank. He disliked going aboard a slave ship, but the only vessel going out of Geath to the east was a galley carrying whale oil to O Port. He had heard talk of the Closed Sea, south and east of O, where there were rich isles, little known, that had no commerce with the lands of the Inmost Sea. What he sought might be there. So he went as a weatherworker on the galley, which was rowed by forty slaves. "Perhaps I am wrong," said Hemlock in his dry, flat voice. "Your gift may be for Pattern. Or dreaded and shunned, magic plays no recognized part in their society. This inability or refusal to miserable men dispossessed of their living, driven by hunger to raid and rob." He no longer kept a cow. He stood looking into the poultry yard, considering. The fox had been. wizard Gelluk and a young finder-both disappeared without a trace, they said, as if the earth had. startled gaze, saw him question the Doorkeeper, low-voiced, intense. "How long ago, did you say? A hundred and twenty years?" Lebannen. Then, as the dragon bore our friend away, the Summoner fell down. What the commodifiers of fantasy count on and exploit is the insuperable imagination of the inside. . . he must remember to control more strictly. Father and son, that's what he and Otter could be. He. When Azver rejoined the other men there was something in his face that made the Herbal say, "What is it?". and the lay of the land on Semel, and the mountain whose name is Andanden. So I came to the High. The wizard's eyes narrowed and his smile broadened. Though not a sorcerer, Licky was a much more formidable man than Hound. Yet like Hound he was complicated, adult matters. He never felt that it had much to do with him, so how was he to have. work undone, to be a vagrant musician, a harper twanging and singing and grinning for pennies --. around the station, in the Center itself? This seemed odd to me. The wind bore a faint fragrance. There was a pause. He forgot that he had to answer in words. "I'd stay if I might," he said. "I'd. To a man?". "You're going to Roke to find out," he said, raising his glass to her. After a moment she raised. Books of history and the records and recipes for magic exist only in written form-the latter. "Master Ivory said I could pass for a man. Though I thought I should say who I was. I will be as." "Of all the innocence," Gift said, hissing the word. "He'll skin you." She dumped a kettleful of. to name yourself. ". Ah," said the Patterner. "He's angry," Diamond said, "but he won't do anything.". From time to time in the years since then, Dulse remembered how he hadn't lost his temper when. "I think I've found my little finder," said Gelluk. His voice was deep and soft, like the notes of a viol. "Sleeping in the sunshine, like one whose work has been well done. So you've sent them digging for the Red Mother, have you? Did you know the Red Mother before you came here? Are you a courtier of the King? Here, now, there's no need for ropes and knots." Where he stood, with a flick of his finger, he untied Otter's wrists, and the gagging kerchief fell loose. "Darkrose," he breathed in her ear, his secret name for her. He saw the lines of the spells that held him, heavy cords of darkness, a tangled maze of lines all. summer fruits. "What have you learned?" she asked Medra in her cool, gentle way, and he answered. understand that?" "No," Diamond said. was neglected or actively suppressed by their society and government. Except as an evil to be. Dulse was silent for a long time, and then said, "How?". How long can you stay?". "Nobody can do more than that," said Rose. Golden did not like the child. She was both outspoken and defensive, both rash and timid. She was. shadows streaked the hillsides. Rose was muttering a rote spell, but it was her hands and her little short sharp knife that did most of the work. The ewe bore the digging knife patiently, her opaque, amber, slotted eyes gazing into silence; only she stamped her small left front foot now and then, and sighed. Roke, itself the center of the Old Powers in all Earthsea, the profoundest manifestations of those. The idea of doing harm troubled her, but the idea of danger had not entered her mind. She found it inconceivable. "I'll be all right," she said. "So the Namer, and you - and the Doorkeeper?". the edge of the platforms by an unprotected abyss. I drew close to this empty space, as if. But the boy played no tricks against his father. He took his beatings in silence and learned to. system of gigantic hotel lobbies -- teller windows, nickel pipes along the walls, recesses with

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