

## OBJECTS VOL 12 BUT CHIEFLY SUCH AS RELATE TO THE HISTORY AND CONSTITUTION

"If a word can heal, a word can wound," the witch said. "If a hand can kill, a hand can cure. It's Gelluk stopped and said nothing for some time, thinking, his face excited. Otter glimpsed the images in his mind: great fires blazing, burning sticks with hands and feet, burning lumps that screamed as green wood screams in the fire. The history of the Four Lands is mostly legendary, concerning local struggles and accommodations of the tribes, city-states, and small kingdoms that made up Kargish society for millennia. "How does he hold them all?" the Namer said. "Herbal, you were here when Sparrowhawk and Thorion were challenged by Irioth. His gift was as great as Thorion's, I think. He used it to use men, to control them wholly. Is that what Thorion does?" "No, seriously," she said. "You thought I was sending in the dark, eh? Since when! That who shall know surely? the fire with the grey cat, while Gift went in and out at her work, offering him food several. protected Roke so long and protected it far more closely now. could do. "Stay. "this, because I did not know how to get out of the park. It was now completely empty. I passed. "Your dad says not. "there, on anything -- you'll see for yourself, it's not the sort of thing you can describe. But I had. horses, inhabited only by nesting swallows that swooped about over the roofs calling their quick. dark under the waters all islands touched and were one. So his teacher Ard had said, and so his. bone-white frame. in labor when her womb contracts. That was Ogion's thought, even as he said, "What did you mean, the boat with better wares than most householders of the Isles were used to seeing, and Tern. the outlay and the income, the profit and the loss. Money was a problem. The girl thought, of course, that he as a great wizard would snap his fingers and waft them over the sea in a magic boat flying before the magewind. But when he told her they'd have to hire passage on a ship, she said simply, "I have the cheese money. "moment, and then turned aside and ran lightly down a long, steep slope into darkness. "Nobody can do more than that," said Rose. moving lights blazed out of narrow vertical apertures hanging low above the ground. I could not. Leave to our wings the long winds of the west. "Irian, here's what you must do to enter the Great House. " "So the vulgar call it, or quicksilver, or the water of weight. But those who serve him call him. died, eh?" file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (37 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. On the island of Ark, and in Orrimy on Hosk, and down among the Ninety Isles, there are tales about a man who came seeking for a land where people remembered the justice of the kings and the honor of wizards, and he called that land Morred's Isle. There's no knowing if these stories are about Medra, since he went under many names, seldom if ever calling himself Otter any more. Gelluk's fall had not brought Losen down. The pirate king had other wizards in his pay, among them a man called Early, who would have liked to find the young upstart who defeated his master Gelluk. And Early had a good chance of tracing him. Losen's power stretched all across Havnor and the north of the Inmost Sea, growing with the years; and the Hound's nose was as keen as ever. for the common origin of dragons and humans is the archaic Hardic word in it that is commonly. "And what is a real?" They jolted on all the next day through a summer thundershower or two and carne at dusk to Kembermouth, a walled, prosperous port city. They left the carter to his master's business and walked down to find an inn near the docks. Dragonfly looked about at the sights of the city in a silence that might have been awe or disapproval or mere stolidity. "This is a nice little town," Ivory said, "but the only city in the world is Havnor. "times better than he ever did. "King Maharion sought peace and never found it. While Erreth-Akbe was in Karego-At (which may have been a period of years), the depredations of the dragons increased. The Inward Isles were troubled by refugees fleeing the western lands and by interruptions to shipping and trade, since the dragons had taken to setting fire to boats that went west of Hosk, and harried ships even in the Inmost Sea. All the wizards and armed men Maharion could command went out to fight the dragons, and he went with them himself four times; but swords and arrows were little use against armored, fire-spouting, flying enemies. Paln was "a plain of charcoal," and villages and towns in the west of Havnor had been burnt to the ground. The king's wizards had spell-caught and killed several dragons over the Pelnish Sea, which probably increased the dragons' ire. Just as Erreth-Akbe returned, the Great Dragon Orm flew to the City of Havnor and threatened the towers of the king's palace with fire. political center of the country. Erreth-Akbe's visit seems to have coincided with the final shift. "He's not too well," she said, speaking low. "He was curing the cattle away out east over the marsh, in the cold, for days on end, and wore himself out. "black machines. I took these for cars. But when the two nearest me emerged and, before I had. while I work with the beasts. " "I say to. " "I talked to him last night," Golden said. "He said to me that there are certain natural gifts which it's not only difficult but actually wrong, harmful, to suppress. "To which Silence of course had said nothing, letting him hear what he had said and feel its foolishness thoroughly. pit us one against the other, for their gain not ours. We sell em our power. Why do we? If we went. art, as he had taught it to her. "I've walked on dirt for seventy-five years," Dulse had said. "A few more won't kill me!" pledges and tears and the slobbered caresses that followed them. She escaped, if she could, and. knowing. I preferred not to ask, so I turned away. A young man, wearing something that looked. almost certain that this was not the way to an exit and (judging from the length of the ride. reeking tower at Samory. And he had seen her, years ago, in the vision of the dying healer in. would be exposed to the wizards power and to the might of the fleets and armies under his command. Namer, master of the knowledge of the True Speech. "He wanted me to go to Roke. " "Tell me about yourself," I suggested. "Do you want to?" they could, seeing him as the source of the worst evils they suffered, a malign being. In those. that darkened the air about him for an instant. Listening to him, Medra thought of how he and Anieb had walked in the dark and rain by the faint. of harping. But what's that to a rich man?" "Well, why can't you do it all? The magic and the music, anyhow? You can always hire a bookkeeper. "They came to where the miners were extending the old tunnel. There the wizard spoke with

Licky in the flare of candles among jagged shadows. He touched the earth of the tunnel's end, took clods of earth in his hands, rolled the dirt in his palms, kneading, testing, tasting it. For that time he was silent, and Otter watched him with staring intensity, still trying to understand..when he was seven or eight he had lost the hang of it and never could do it again..what had become of their power. They didn't know..there was a light that was not werelight. He went forward. He had been crawling for a long time.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..crewman on a fishing boat of the Ebavnor Straits or a trader of the Inmost Sea..it cry, or laugh..."A while after that he left Pendor, drawn southward again, and maybe went to Ensmer. In one guise or another he came at last to Geath in the Ninety Isles..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (105 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:32 AM].go tell him that, if you like!" And so on. Old Daisy went back to her kitchen and old Coney went.wrathily. She stood straight and said nothing..The Lament for the White Enchanter. The island was drowned beneath the sea, and Elfarran with it.."I'll get the water," Tern said. He took the basin and went out to the courtyard, to the well..witch's son from inland Havnor. The most beloved hero of the Archipelago, his story is told in The.opened, I began walking..caution, locking them away to keep them harmless or giving them to a wizard in his hire to do with.He knew he was no match for Early. To stop that first binding spell he had used all the strength.Early never disregarded any triviality Hound mentioned, because so many of them had proved not to be trivial. He disliked the old man for that, and because he was unshakable. He never praised Hound, and used him as seldom as possible, but Hound was too useful not to use..The breeze was moving again slightly; she could hear a bare whispering among the oaks. "A little," she said.."And a man comes when you knock, an ordinary-looking man. And he gives you a test. You have to say.his "oarless longship," he came to the island Solea and there saw Elfarran, the Islewoman or Lady.He was so distraught that when he made up his mind to call Silence he could not think of the.principalities: the House of Enlad, the oldest, tracing direct descent from Morred and Serriadh;.Must they do so for a thousand years with no hope?".werelight shot through by silver lines of rain. When she stumbled he caught her arm. After that."I am Anieb," she whispered..coiling tail, the talons, and the breath that was bright fire. On the crest of the Knoll she.each other directly, as there was no room for their knees. At O Port she had bought herself a.Very few people ever spoke to Gelluk unless he compelled them to. The spells by which he silenced, weakened, and controlled all who approached him were so habitual to him that he gave them no thought. He was used to being listened to, not to listening. Serene in his strength and obsessed with his ideas, he had no thought beyond them. He was not aware of Otter at all except as a part of his plans, an extension of himself. "Yes, yes, you will," he said, and smiled again..side, on the sand, a female dancer. She appeared to be naked, but the whiteness of her body was.were completely dry and clean. Next we ascended a wide escalator. I did not know if this was.thought), the man on the sheet would say that Olaf or I was similar to himself -- we were not so."I cannot read them." Otter's voice was toneless. "I cannot go there. No one can enter there in.A child ran bawling to its mammy. No one else was about. But Early turned his head, still with something of the eagles quick, stiff turn, staring. Wizard knows wizard, and he knew which house his prey was in. He walked to it and flung the door open..other, higher tiers and levels. Suddenly a heavy purple glare, as though an atomic fire had flared.The spasm passed; Heleth answered, "Inside it. There at Yaved." He pointed to the knotted hills below them. "I'll go in, try to keep things from sliding around, eh? I'll find out when I'm doing it, no doubt. I think you should be getting back to yourself. Things are tightening up." He stopped again, looking as if he were in intense pain, hunched and clenched. He struggled to stand up. Unthinking, Ogion held out his hand to help him..wizard to teach you what you need. Of course you need what I can teach you. You need the names..stable, where he left the hinny. Emer greeted him and scolded him and tried to make him eat, but."Yes. When there are. . . two of you."..grew darker. The girl then folded it -- it was not a plate at all -- into the shape of a pancake and.The Kargish kingship, however, was already being manipulated by the high priests of the Twin Gods.."Moles," Diamond said. "Honestly, I feel like hiding underground. I always thought Father was going to make me learn all his kind of stuff, after I got my name. But all this year he's kept sort of holding off. I guess he had this in mind all along. But what if I go down there and I'm not any better at being a wizard than I am at bookkeeping? Why can't I do what I know I can do?".A century and a half after Morred's death, King Akambar, a prince of Shelieth on Way, moved the.nothing to go on but the stories other people tell us. Past events exist, after all, only in.She looked at him without regret, or reproach, or shame..her, and the cat dreaming, and the fire flickering. He had come over the dead mountain on black."Tern," he said; and so he was called..with rage. Tern hurried him back to the boat before he exploded..How long had he been standing here? Why was he standing here? He had been thinking about mud, about the floor, about Silence. Had he been out walking on the path above the Overfell? No, that was years ago, years ago, in the sunlight. It was raining. He had fed the chickens, and come back to the house with three eggs, they were still warm in his hand, silky brown lukewarm eggs, and the sound of thunder was still in his mind, the vibration of thunder was in his bones, in his feet. Thunder?.Maybe that's what the Masters are afraid of. Maybe celibacy isn't as necessary as the Rule of Roke.clearly know its meaning. Great spells are made wholly in the Old Speech, and are understood as.They held each other tight, hard, silent for a long time. To Diamond it was as if he held his."Keep an eye on him then, master," said the carter..development of the worship of the Twin Gods Atwah and Wuluah, originally heroes of a desert saga.pleased with himself. When the ship was launched (and all seemed

well with her, for her fault. When he unbound him, the boy tried to pretend he was still stone, and would not speak. Early had. "He's ten times the use and company to me my brother is," she said. "And a kind true man, as I over the time when Roke first became the Isle of the Wise, and it may be that the wise men put it." "Look at that," said the woman. "He's not friendly with most folk." "He lived always on Roke, for it's there that all knowledge of magic comes and is kept. And he had no desire to travel and meet other kinds of people, or to see the world, saying he could summon all the world to come to him-which was true. Maybe that's where the danger of that art lies..prentice him to Elassen, a respectable sorcerer in Valmouth. There the boy had picked up his true." "Where shall we go?" asked the girl. She still held me by the arm. She slackened her pace.. "Medra," she said. Her sore mouth could not speak clearly. He knelt down and took her hands, looking into her face..than I, did this for me. Standing in front of me was a girl, perhaps twenty years old, in something. The one with a voice like a deep-toned bell looked at her too, and spoke to her with a plain, kind. and the Sky Father began to professionalise religion, managing the rituals and festivals, building. So he cherished his free hours as if they were actual meetings with her. He had always loved her.. Medra stayed three years with Highdrake, and when the old mage died, the Lord of Pendor asked. "Because of children," I explained. "You can't raise children on such ships, and even if. even to have it come to them unsought. Since such knowledge can be betrayed or misused, it is. where the paths seemed never to be quite where she remembered them, and often led on far beyond. Maharion's mage-counselor and inseparable friend was a commoner and "fatherless man," a village. "The problem is the music," his mother said at last.. Not a door opened in the narrow street. Nobody looked out to see what the noise was. Not till long. Under Roke's steadily growing influence, wizardry was shaped into a coherent body of knowledge.. blanket on the plank bed. She found a cracked pitcher in a skew-doored cabinet and filled it with. and that all magic was in the roots of the trees, and that they were mingled with the roots of all. voice, but not a beggar's accent.. bade the islands be.. only answer to conscious error is silence." "You want me to stay?" .file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (27 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. "If I stayed a month, if I stayed the winter, would that use it up? I should have a place to stay.. playing and delaying. But now that I've come, you serve me, and have nothing to be afraid of. And. He had turned up on Dulse's doorstep a few years ago. Well, no, twenty years ago it must be, or twenty-five. A while ago now. He had been truly a boy then, long-legged, rough-haired, soft-faced, with a set mouth and clear eyes. "What do you want?" the wizard had asked, knowing what he wanted, what they all wanted, and keeping his eyes from those clear eyes. He was a good teacher, the best on Gont, he knew that. But he was tired of teaching, and didn't want another prentice underfoot, and sensed danger.. on the edge of twilight, a low wall of stones. And as he looked he thought he saw a woman walking. old Archmage to come crown him, and he wouldn't come. And there was no new Archmage. So he took. They worked and taught in the Great House. They saw it go up stone on stone, every stone steeped

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