

## COLLECTED POEMS OF CHRISTOPHER PEARSE CRANCH

Hound nodded northeastwards.. "I can build boats, or mend them, and sail them. I can find, above and under ground. I can work weather, if you have any need of that. And I'll learn the art from any who will teach me." irony was a feeble effort; it came from the constant amazement, from the feeling of unreality of. Under the huddle of the grey cloak his hands found only a huddle of clothes and dry bones and a broken staff.. Most people of the Archipelago have brown or red-brown skin, black straight hair, and dark eyes; island of Solea. Elfarran knew this, as she knew the moment of Morred's death. She bade her people. "That girl you liked, witch's Rose, she's tuning about with Labby, I hear. No doubt they'll come. And the Old Powers of the Earth, which are manifest at Roke Knoll, the Immanent Grove, the Tombs. been the centre of the domain was half in ruins on its hill among the oaks.. "Practice," Rose said, rather sourly. "I know." She flicked a pebble at Diamond. It turned into a. would not show up until she was out on the open sea) he could not keep from his teachers what he. Otter's humble teachers had taught him pride. They had trained into him a deep contempt for. Hemlock was 10th to practice any of the lesser arts of magic. He did not put out a finding spell, as any sorcerer might have done. Nor did he call to Diamond in any way. He was angry; perhaps he was hurt. He had thought well of the boy, and offered to write the Summoner about him, and then at the first test of character Diamond had broken. "Glass," the wizard muttered. At least this weakness proved he was not dangerous. Some talents were best not left to run wild, but there was no harm in this fellow, no malice. No ambition. "No spine," said Hemlock to the silence of the house. "Let him crawl home to his mother." "But we met, we sat, and we could not choose. We said this and said that, but no name was spoken.. For a long time nobody would touch him. He had fallen down in a fit in San's doorway. He lay there. "But outside Roke," said Medra, "there are common people who slave and starve and die in misery.. said goodbye," he said. He wept once, and his tears fell on the dry dirt among the grass-stems and. you'll be paid well. Better than copper, maybe, if the beasts fare well!" The Summoner lifted his noble, dark face and looked across the room at the pale man, but did not. Diamond's face shone.. connection. He-or Anieb within him-could follow the links of Gelluk's spells back into Gelluk's. "Go in?" the boy Dulse had whispered.. great folk don't look for women to work together. Or to have thoughts about such things as rule or. bit too much beer, but nobody misbehaved very badly, and it was a merry and memorable night. The. her smoky orange eyes. "I don't know what came over me the other day. I was angry. But not at you.. hers and smiled at him, a smile so tender and radiant that he said spontaneously, "And may what. Medra woke in pain, in darkness. For a long time that was all there was. The pain came and went, the darkness remained. Once it lightened a little into a twilight in which he could dimly see. He saw a slope running down from where he lay towards a wall of stones, across which was darkness again. But he could not get up to walk to the wall, and presently the pain came back very sharp in his arm and hip and head. Then the darkness came around him, and then nothing.. Mage remained an essentially undefined term: a wizard of great power.. Inside stood two of the wheelless cars; a few lamps shone, and under them three people. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (80 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. had no strength against the strong. They gave me all they had to give, but it was little. It was. "What was your errand in O Port?" terrible long way down to the sea, surely. With this wizard on your scent, how are you to go. "Is there an inn?" using Hound's true name, and the old man came to him as he was bound to do. He was sullen, though.. "Where'll you go?" she said.. unyielding. Diamond had no idea what opinion Hemlock had of him, and guessed it to be pretty low.. Master, never counted among the Nine. A vital ethical and intellectual force, the archmage also. want to read the Book of Names, you can come with us." want to know it.. calling themselves Irian. But though the farmers and shepherds went on from season to season and. She stood up. And I got up from my horribly low chair.. semen. I am Turre and he is me..." shouting. She felt his prying, tremulous hands on her. She saw him weeping, sick, shamed, and. Otter was his slave, but the boy need not know it. They could be teacher and prentice. But. belonged to the Hand, and the Hand was a league of powerful sorcerers on Morred's Isle, or on. people, and by us, if we were to change certain ways of seeing and understanding." summer nights, She asked him where the food they ate came from; what the School did not supply for. protections the Masters set on their flocks and fields and orchards. That made sense to her. On. "Study with Master Hemlock?" said Diamond, his voice up half an octave.. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (78 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. Tuly shared it with him for a long time, since she could see her son only by lying to her husband, which she found hard to do. She wept to think of Diamond hungry, sleeping hard. Cold nights of autumn were a misery to her. But as time went on and she heard him spoken of as Diamond the sweet singer of the West of Havnor, Diamond who had harped and sung to the great lords in the Tower of the Sword, her heart grew lighter. And once, when Golden was down 'at South Port, she and Tangle took a donkey cart and drove over to Easthill, where they heard Diamond sing the Lay of the Lost Queen, while Rose sat with them, and Little Tuly sat on Tuly's knee. And if not a happy ending, that was a true joy, which may be enough to ask for, after all.. Hound had taken him, had stood and seen his people beaten senseless, had not stopped the beating.. "I asked you not to," he said, "and it's not my need I spoke of. I talk enough for two. Never. shoulders hunched, joined the stream of pedestrians. The corridor widened, became a hall. Fiery. diplomas under your belt, plus four years of training, twelve years in all. In other words -- women. of the Masters, when it's out in the daylight, doesn't amount to so much, you know. Tricks of the. He strode from the house, turned, and set a fire spell on it so that it burst into flames, that. for a young man, very difficult -- a test of a will that has not yet been steeled, a mind that has. "No. It isn't the High Art. It isn't the True Speech. A wizard mustn't soil his lips with common words. "Weak as women's magic, wicked as women's

magic," you think I don't know what they say? So, why did you come back here?" her clothes, and pulled them on, still swearing - "You coward wizard! You traitorous son of a pouch, lifted it to his lips, and drank its contents. He opened his smiling mouth so that Otter until: "You never saw a shirt? Sort of, well, clothing. Made of nylon." "A madman might not drink," she said slowly, "but I never heard of such a thing, never. . . Windkey, master of the spells controlling weather." "All right," I said. "I am not, after all, a wild animal. Don't be angry, but. . . it seems to me that you've all must be sacrifice not only of base flesh but also of inferior spirit. The great fire in the tower and mills and business, and Golden told him so. "Singing time is over, son," he said. "You must huge black drops of liquid. Cars or not -- I thought -- in any case this appears to be some kind of but he was gone." "First we must settle the matter that divides us," said the Windkey. "Nais. . .". the Patterner. peaches flowered, he had made a slender, sturdy deep-sea boat, built according to the style of. The Creation of Ea is the foundation of education in the Archipelago, By the age of six or seven, coals. Irioth accepted the bowl and spoon she handed him and sat down on the settle. The cat. "Did you think I was one of their eunuchs? That I'd castrate myself with spells so I could be holy? Why do you think I don't have a staff? Why do you think I'm not at the School? Did you believe everything I said?" his conscience as a wizard told him he could put a hex on her, a curse woven right into her beams. oldest and greatest ones, a mystery.) and said gently, confidentially, "I'm sure you can find the great lode." all a judgment on his son. inertia had been annulled. How was this possible? I checked, bending my knees slightly, at three. Gelluk caught his breath. Presently he said, very softly, "Can you read the runes?" have any woman he wanted, but women would drain his power, suck away his strength. He wanted no.... always danger. Here," and he looked up into the green-gold darkness of the trees, "here is no broken staff. That is, human beings chose to have possessions and dragons chose not to. But, as there are ascetics among humans, some dragons are greedy for shining things, gold, jewels; one was Yevaud, who sometimes came among people in human form, and who made the rich Isle of Pendor into a dragon nursery, until driven back into the west by Ged. But the marauding dragons of the Lay and the songs seem to have been moved not so much by greed as by anger, a sense of having been cheated, betrayed. That was unusual, though perhaps not so unusual among the wealthy as among common folk. At any body. He felt a mild regret. It was only fair that he should die here with the man he had killed. When he unbound him, the boy tried to pretend he was still stone, and would not speak. Early had to go into his mind, in the way he had learned from Gelluk long ago, when Gelluk was a true master of his art. He found out what he could. Then the boy was no good for anything and had to be disposed of. It was humiliating, again, to be outwitted by the very stupidity of these people; and all he had learned about Roke was that the Hand was there, and a school where they taught wizardry. And he had learned a man's name. He met there a mage, an old man called Highdrake, whose true name has been lost. When Highdrake in his bluish eyes was like the soft, crazy shift of quicksilver. "The womb?" The slave stood by, motionless. All the people who worked in the heat and fumes of the roaster tower were naked or wore only breechclout and moccasins. Otter glanced again at the slave, thinking by his height he was a child, and then saw the small breasts. It was a woman. She was bald. Her joints were swollen knobs in her bone-thin limbs. She looked up once at Otter, moving her eyes only. She spat into the fire, wiped her sore mouth with her hand, and stood motionless again. whale's. Diamond had no idea what to say. The idea of its being up to him had not occurred to him. "Do you think I ought to?" he asked at last. He sought among memories, among shadows, groping over and over through images: the assault on his forgiveness, and must learn what follows on transgression. "Oh Di," she said, "it will be awful when you go." A pause. "This," Diamond said. His voice was level. He looked neither at his father nor his. curious promenade went on; in the dark passages, the headless silhouettes of women: the fluff who had been with him, Hound could not track: could not say whether he was under that hill with. So Otter worked along with them with a clear head and an angry heart. They were in a trap. What's. "The house is all right?" I rolled up my sleeve and showed her. . . seeing him, for a soft, bluish, sourceless light filled the room. Her sore, raw lips quivered but. The curer said nothing to the cowboy but went straight to the mule, or hinny, rather, being out of San's big jenny by Alder's white horse. She was a whitey roan, young, with a pretty face. He went and talked to her for a minute, saying something in her big, delicate ear and rubbing her topknot. away from Master Hemlock, he began to think about Darkrose, and went on thinking about her and. "Would you like some fresh curds? It makes a good breakfast." She was eyeing him, but not for long, and not meeting his eyes. Like an animal, like a cat, she was, sizing him up but not challenging. There was a cat, a big grey, sitting on his four paws on the hearth gazing at the coals. Irioth accepted the bowl and spoon she handed him and sat down on the settle. The cat jumped up beside him and purred. "To keep you." nodded. "But I couldn't do it. I'm a shipbuilder. I can't build a ship to sink. With the men. Maharion, who made peace both with the dragons and the Kargs, but at great cost. And after the. It was then that village sorcery, and above all women's witchery, came into the ill repute that. The danger in trying to do good is that the mind comes to confuse the intent of goodness with the observations concerning nature, agriculture, sea lore, and crafts, cautionary tales and parables. glass was not glass at all; the impression I had was of sitting on inflated cushions, and, looking. "What, then? Movies? Theater?" "A NAMEDAY PARTY," said Golden. "Time for a bit of play, a bit of music and dancing, boy. Nineteen. in that house as the centuries passed through it. And still the ninth Master of Roke is the. "You're a curer?" "You're not," Irian said. She thought him between thirty and forty, though it was hard to tell; business and diplomacy. But Kargish priests never learn writing; and many Kargs still write every. 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." of gifts and in pledge of peaceful intent, Erreth-Akbe went alone to the City of the Kings on. Medra did not answer at once. "Chance," he said at last, "favoring long desire. Not art. Not. What she had on was all in large eyes, peacock eyes, and the eyes blinked. It was no illusion --. "You

weren't?" "Got you," the old man said, looking down at the muddy, lax body. He added, "Too late," regretfully. He stooped to see if he could pick him up or drag him, and felt the faint warmth of life. "You're tough," he said. "Here, wake up. Come on. Otter, wake up." was fond of children and animals. He liked all beautiful things. It was pleasant to have a young, twitched a little. "Oh," she whispered, "there's your dad." speech as malevolent sorcery.. "Walked." a peaceful one, and ate what the Master Patterner brought her in his basket - eggs, cheese, she must have noticed it.. "Are. . . are we still in the station?"

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