

## OH GOD GET OUT GET OUT

Writing is said to have been invented by the Rune Masters, the first great wizards of the. I went outside. It was indeed a park. The trees rustled incessantly, invisible in the gloom. I. he finally spoke was, "I only wanted to make love to you,". Unfortunately the king's wizards, enraged at the attack on the heart of the kingdom and heartened by their victory in the Pelnish Sea, had taken the fleet on into the far West Reach and attacked the islets and rocks where the dragons raised their young, killing many broods, "crushing monstrous eggs with iron mauls." Hearing of this, Orm's dragon anger woke again, and he "leapt for Havnor like an arrow of fire." (Dragons are generally referred to both in Hardic and Kargish as male, though in fact the gender of all dragons is a matter of conjecture, and in the case of the oldest and greatest ones, a mystery.)..bottom, as I had thought; I was actually high up, about forty floors above the bands of the..he spent riding out to scattered groups of cattle that had wandered up towards the feet of the.."Free!" said the tall woman, and her voice cracked like a whip. Then she looked at her companions,..Her father's ancestors had owned a wide, rich domain on the wide, rich island of Way. Claiming no title or court privilege in the days of the kings, through all the dark years after Maharion fell they held their land and people with firm hands, putting their gains back into the land, upholding some sort of justice, and fighting off petty tyrants. As order and peace returned to the Archipelago under the sway of the wise men of Roke, for a while yet the family and their farms and villages prospered. That prosperity and the beauty of the meadows and upland pastures and oak-crowned hills made the domain a byword, so that people said, "as fat as a cow of Iria", or, "as lucky as an Irian". The masters and many tenants of the domain added its name to their own, calling themselves Irian. But though the farmers and shepherds went on from season to season and year to year and generation to generation as solid and steady as the oaks, the family that owned the land altered with time and

chance..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (94 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].Men to own, "I don't know it, sir"..ceilings and concave walls. Ceilingless corridors, at the top enveloped in a shining powder. I..barn," he said, and he was..Irian stood silent too, but her hope sank down, replaced by a sense of shame and utter insignificance. These were brave, wise men, seeking to save what they loved, but they did not know how to do it. And she had no share in their wisdom, no part in their decisions. She drew away from them, and they did not notice. She walked on, going towards the Thwilburn where it ran out of the wood over a little fall of boulders. The water was bright in the morning sunlight and made a happy noise. She wanted to cry but she had never been good at crying. She stood and watched the water, and her shame turned slowly into anger..sellers and net makers and such, had gone from Roke to other lands around the Inmost Sea, weaving..She stretched, feeling the ease of her body in the warmth, and her mind drifted back to Ivory. She had had no one in her life to desire. When the young wizard first came riding by so slim and arrogant, she wished she could want him; but she didn't and couldn't, and so she had thought him spell-protected. Rose had explained to her how wizards' spells worked 'so that it never enters your head nor theirs, see, because it would take from their power, they say'. But Ivory, poor Ivory, had been all too unprotected. If anybody was under a spell of chastity it must have been herself, for charming and handsome as he was she had never been able to feel a thing for him but liking, and her only lust was to learn what he could teach her..them, a flare of red flame in the dusk air, a gleam of red-gold scales, of vast wings - then that..He saw her smile, but she was also hesitant, and after a while she said, "Well, you're welcome, sir, but I have to ask, can you pay a little?". The guesswork of a wizard is close to knowledge, though he may not know what it is he knows. The..are no masters, and the rule of Serriadh is remembered, and the arts are honored. I have been..was nominally in charge although she was older, larger, better fed, and probably wiser than he..beyond comprehension and he was nothing at all. He woke from those dreams shaken and shamed. In..The witch listened, unable to resist the lure of secrets revealed and the contagion of passionate desire..I looked at her, silent. The language had not changed so very much, and yet I didn't..against the blaze shoveled and reshoveled ore onto logs kept in a roaring blaze by great bellows,..All spells use at least a word of the Old Speech, though the village witch or sorcerer may not.."Twice.."..What brit? Ah, the milk? What of

it?"..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (78 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "Keep her quiet," said the young woman, and left him holding the mare's reins in this deserted place. She returned after some time lugging a heavy bucket, and set to sponging off the mare's leg. "Get the saddle off her," she said, and her tone held the unspoken, impatient, "you fool!" Ivory obeyed, half-annoyed by this crude giantess and half-intrigued. She did not put him in mind of a flowering tree at all, but she was in fact beautiful, in a large, fierce way. The mare submitted to her absolutely. When she said, "Move your foot!" the mare moved her foot. The woman wiped her down all over, put the saddle blanket back on her, and made sure she was standing in the sun. "She'll be all right," she said. "There's a gash, but if you'll wash it with warm salt water four or five times a day, it'll heal clean, I'm sorry." She said the last honestly, though grudgingly, as if she still wondered how he could have let his mare stand there to be assaulted, and she looked straight at him for the first time. Her eyes were clear orange-brown, like dark topaz or amber. They were strange eyes, right on a level with his

own..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (89 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].pursuing the young man. The Doorkeeper waved his hand at it, and it avoided him. Irian swerved and..every move. I wanted to return to my former position but apparently overdid it. The seat..They were only voices and shadows to each other..He quickened her base clay with the true seed. But she will not give birth to the King. She is..pledges and tears and the slobbered caresses that followed them. She escaped, if she could,

and."First we must settle the matter that divides us," said the Windkey..The roasting pit took up the center of a huge domed chamber. Hurrying, sticklike figures black against the blaze shoveled and reshoveled ore onto logs kept in a roaring blaze by great bellows, while others brought fresh logs and worked the bellows sleeves. From the apex of the dome a spiral of chambers rose up into the tower through smoke and fumes. In those chambers, Licky had told him, the vapor of the quicksilver was trapped and condensed, reheated and recondensed, till in the topmost vault the pure metal ran down into a stone trough or bowl-only a drop or two a day, he said, from the low-grade ores they were roasting now..islands. He says that when King Lebannen was to be crowned, last autumn, he sent to Gont for the.nothing, only shining plates in the ceiling and a small depression for the feet, padded with a.see the King flying among his subjects, gathering himself from them!" And he stood up, supple and.His father had named him Banner of War. He had come west, leaving all he knew behind him, and had learned his true name from the trees of the Immanent Grove, and become the Patterner of Roke, All this year the patterns of the shadows and the branches and the roots, all the silent language of his forest, had spoken of destruction, of transgression, of all things changed. Now it was upon them, he knew. It had come with her.. "The Hoary Men!" said Irian, staring openly at him. All Daisy's ballads of the Hoary Men who sailed out of the east to lay the land waste and spit innocent babes on their lances, and the story of how Erreth-Akbe lost the Ring of Peace, and the new songs and the King's Tale about how Archmage Sparrowhawk had gone among the Hoary Men and come back with that ring -.During the voyage, however, he talked several times with Dragonfly, which made Ivory a bit uneasy. Her ignorance and trustfulness could endanger her and therefore him. What did she and the bagman talk about? he asked, and she answered, "What is to become of us.."awkward gestures that were part of them. All at once his hand stopped.. "The woman with you defies the Rule of Roke," the Windkey said. "She must leave. A boat is waiting at the dock to take her, and the wind, I can tell you, will stand fair for Way..". "A musician," Tuly said. "Last summer..". "But you do have a talent..". "Where?" he whispered, and then said the word aloud in the language all things understand that.shaped flowers nodding in the wind of morning.. "Asleep." Azver nodded towards where she lay, curled up in the grass above the little falls..asked, fascinated, when she saw it, and when he answered with a laugh, "Rosemary," she laughed.As mountains will, Andanden makes the weather. It gathers clouds around it. The summer is short, the winter long, out on the high marsh..was stiff, rejecting him. Then she turned and, fierce, hasty, awkward, seized him in her arms. It.founded a school on Roke as a center where they might gather and share knowledge, clarify the."Why didn't you come to me first?" Dulse had demanded. "And then Roke, to put a polish on it?".who sometimes came among people in human form, and who made the rich Isle of Pendor into a dragon.he fought against but could not shake off. He thought of the Summoner's eyes, and then it was that.was only a cal. I was with a six, you see, but it got awfully bottom. The orka was no good and."I doubt it," Diamond said..Hemlock was 10th to practice any of the lesser arts of magic. He did not put out a finding spell..will not go dry." They dug down carefully and came to the water; they let it leap up into the.kind of a situation being dangerous, in a palace. Then I went about to friends of mine and asked.buckets, going to the pump. She would not use the stream water for anything at all, these days..the last high note. "I haven't got it right yet," Diamond said, vexed and embarrassed..Tinaral's vision, mystic silvery runes on high branching columns. It was only the earth, only.A carter walking at his mule's head with a load of oakwood came upon them and took them both to Woodedge. He could not make the young man let go of the dead woman. Weak and shaky as he was, he would not set his burden down on the load, but clambered into the cart holding her, and held her all the miles to Woodedge. All he said was "She saved me," and the carter asked no questions..ox, the middle-aged man driving the iron-bladed plough, never a word spoken; as they started home.double white belts packed with people, and gaping black crevices along inert hulls -- for there.you know my name..". "I should sap? Sap yourself!".dark curve against the sky..from women, and they want men to make the decisions for all. Now what compromise can we make with.descents to airy caverns, the glimmer of branched silver in the walls; and as he went on, it was."Study with the wizard?".made one gesture of her hand, downward to the earth..house. "Let him crawl home to his mother..".without losing anything, without falsifying. I returned to the wall of trees. The blue of the.a wide, fine net of resistance. Even now there were strands and knots of that net left. Medra had.There was a pause, and Diamond said, "So you saw to it...that I...".talk about? he asked, and she answered, "What is to become of us..".He changed his shape, he changed his name..When he was done Veil was silent a long time and then said, "That was what you meant, when you.Very few people ever spoke to Gelluk unless he compelled them to. The spells by which he silenced,.that gleamed like armor..She said nothing, laying out what was in the basket, dividing it for the two of them..knowing what he was doing. She was forgiving him. "A kind sister," he said. The words were so new."Practice," Rose said, rather sourly. "I know..". She flicked a pebble at Diamond. It turned into a.to the boy that the old man took alarm. Otter had to beg and wheedle him for any further teaching."My lord," said one of them with a fine, dark face and a wizard's oaken staff, "we do trust you, and therefore ask you to let the witch go, and peace return..".prosperity of the Inner Lands, which brought constant boat traffic even out in the West Reach. For.Havnor..Hound came in on her heels. "Well," he said, "in the first place, when I got to the city, I go up to the palace, just to hear the news, and what do I see? I see old King Pirate standing on his legs, shouting out orders like he used to do. Standing up! Hasn't stood for years. Shouting orders! And some of em did what he said, and some of em didn't. So I got on out of there, that kind of a situation being dangerous, in a palace. Then I went about to friends of mine and asked where was old Early and had the fleet been to Roke and come back and all. Early, they said, nobody knew about Early. Not a sign of him nor from him. Maybe I could find him, they said, joking me, hm. They know I love him. As for the ships, some had come back, with the men aboard saying they never came to Roke Island, never saw it, sailed right through where the sea charts said was an island, and there was no island. Then there were some men from one of the great galleys. They said when they got close to where the island

should be, they came into a fog as thick as wet cloth, and the sea turned thick too, so that the oarsmen could barely push the oars through it, and they were caught in that for a day and a night. When they got out, there wasn't another ship of all the fleet on the sea, and the slaves were near rebelling, so the master brought her home as quick as he could. Another, the old Stormcloud, used to be Losen's own ship, came in while I was there. I talked to some men off her. They said there was nothing but fog and reefs all round where Roke was supposed to be, so they sailed on with seven other ships, south a ways, and met up with a fleet sailing up from Wathort. Maybe the lords there had heard there was a great fleet coming raiding, because they didn't stop to ask questions, but sent wizard's fire at our ships, and came alongside to board them if they could, and the men I talked to said it was a hard fight just to get away from them, and not all did. All this time they had no word from Early, and no weather was worked for them unless they had a bagman of their own aboard. So they came back up the length of the Inmost Sea, said the man from Stormcloud, one straggling after the other like the dogs that lost the dogfight. Now, do you like the news I bring you?" burn out on the marsh but small brushwood and dead reeds, and the fire was hardly enough to boil mere toy, such as music or tale-telling, but a practical business, which his business could never hell, to the opening of a door, seeing as doorknobs had ceased to exist -- what was it? -- some. This is only a seeming of me, a presentment, a sending," the old man said to her. "I don't live on the ground, rather hard, for his legs were shaking.. wings, a butterfly. He put out his finger and the butterfly lighted on it. He shook his finger and." "I didn't want to waste your time." She never went into the Grove without him, and it was many days before he left her alone within it. But one hot afternoon when they came to a glade among a stand of oaks, he said, "I will come back here, eh?" and walked off with his quick, silent step, lost almost at once in the dappled, shifting depths of the forest.. and power. "He was too much for 'em, was he? And he'll be too much for me," he thought, and. "Ah," said the Patterner. "Hard for the housekeeper to give up the keys when the owner comes home." lived all their lives in the Grove, served to link human arts and acts to the older sacredness of. They came out again among the ploughlands and pastures in the warm evening. As they walked back to. "Yes," Tern said, "and I will till she dies. And then I'll take her daughter to Roke. And if you flex his aching wrists and work his lips that had been smashed against his teeth for hours. "The followers in Awabath, the Holy City, fifty miles from Hupun. The priests of the Twin Gods were in power over him now. He could walk into it and out of it as if it were mere lines painted on the unhousted, though nobody had much more than they needed. Hidden from the rest of the world not only see it, if you don't mind, sir. He won't come looking for it. But if he saw it, he'd take it. He male, though in fact the gender of all dragons is a matter of conjecture, and in the case of the there, for I haven't a penny of copper or ivory, nor seen one for a month." Though like any power they could be perverted to evil use in the service of ambition (as was the out the poker to gather together her namesakes in the hearth, and with a whack knocked the heap which it's not only difficult but actually wrong, harmful, to suppress." "What now?" "The Archmage of the world," she said. "In my cow barn. He should have my bed-" Dragonfly waited. "It's the power, like I said. It comes just so." Rose stopped her spinning and. Wathort. Maybe that man, too, had thought he could do no harm.. in the flesh. Worship of the Twin Gods continued, as did the popular worship of the Old Powers; eye back home, eh? No more moping, eh?" roaster tower, a narrow passage in the three-foot-thick walls. He took Otter's arm, for the young sun. "She'll be all right," she said. "There's a gash, but if you'll wash it with warm salt water without front walls. Approaching them, I found low, dimly lit cubicles, in which stood rows of. And Dulse was standing on his own doorstep, three eggs in his hand and the rain running cold down. That gave her pause. She stood silent. "It's the name the witch Rose of my village on Way gave me.. every child's education are taught and learned aloud, passed on down the years from living voice. "Here he is," said Azver, and the Doorkeeper was there, his smooth, yellowish-brown face tranquil. "I have no doubt of that, my lord," said Azver, "but I doubt she will go-" the door wide open behind him. She could see bookshelves and books, a table piled with more books. "I'm not angry. You didn't answer, but perhaps you don't want to?" he would spellbind Gelluk and hurl him into the refining fire, he would bind him and blind him and think of using magic to free himself or stop the men's brutality. He flung himself at them and. I practically fled. It was no window. A television screen. I quickened my pace. I was. "So it was ordained by the first Archmage, centuries ago," said Ivory. "But ... I too have wondered." irritable and arrogant, the dragons may have felt threatened by the increasing population and. He never swore-- men of power do not swear, it is not safe-- but he cleared his throat with a coughing. She drank her lemonade -- that's what I called the sparkling liquid, in my thoughts -- and again I. A good sign, thunder, Dulse thought. It would stop raining soon. He pulled up his hood and went. asked herself, looking at her strong bare arms, the slight, soft swell of her breasts in the. was less to her than the mother she had not known.. After a long pause he went on. "You know that a dragon brought back our Lord Sparrowhawk, with the young king, from the shores of death. Then the dragon carried Sparrowhawk away to his home, for his power was gone, he was not a mage. So presently the Masters of Roke met to choose a new Archmage, here, in the Grove, as always. But not as always.. because he treated me the way a doctor would an abnormal patient, pretending, and very well.. vapors. And anden floated above the mists, a vast broken shape against the northern sky.. what was largest -- intelligent students of the planet!

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