

## REDEEMING THE ROGUISH RAKE

Rose watched her. She knew she did not know who Man was or what she might be. A big, strong, "I said you have a strength in you, a great one," the witch said from the darkness. "And you know it too. What you are to do I don't know, nor do you. That's to find. But there's no such power as to name yourself." been honored in his island, and his successor would have both honor and power. Perhaps tempted to. Archmage. He had been the Master Patterner and the kindest of all Dulse's teachers at the School..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (69 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].tune would come as part of the name, and he would sing out so clearly-- for his voice had re-"What? What milk? That's brit. . .".looked like a man, though she did not feel like one. She and Ivory took each other in their arms,.But when they came out into the daylight again his head kept on spinning in the dark, and after a.reached dry ground and coarse grass, and heard the buzz of midges and crickets. He sat down then."Hungry? Eat," he said..man covered away, shrinking down, shriveling, crying out in a thin, high wail. It is wrong, wrong,.invasion. Venway, Torheven and the Torikles, Spevy, Perregal, and parts of Gont were under Kargish.announcement about takeoff, signals of some sort, the warning to fasten seat belts, but nothing.She was there, the sick woman who could heal him, the poof woman who held the treasure, the.from the Earth branch of Adapt would be waiting and all I had to do was to find him at a.and inkpots and writings, two or three boys seated at the table, and the grey-haired, stocky man.Something happened. I heard raised voices. I leaned out of my seat. Several rows in front."I've been coming doing business here some ten years," he said, looking Irioth up and down. "A man.the Doorkeeper spoke to. She saw the man's face change, saw his eyes shift to her in a brief,.he went into the west, sent by the king to defeat or drive back a brood of dragons who had been.I jumped back; the possessor of the voice, the fat one with the cap, appeared. I went to.laughed, but the old people said, "Look out. Take care. Keep hidden."marsh, in the cold, for days on end, and wore himself out.".Oraby, Daisy and Goldie and the one they called the Burning Bush. He had to sit with the young men.She asked nothing and he said no more. Presently he got up, and she followed him to the path that always led them, sooner or later, out of the wood to the clearing by the Thwilburn and the Otter's House. When they came there, it was late afternoon. He went down to the stream and drank from it where it left the wood, above all the crossings. She did the same. Then sitting in the cool, long grass of the bank, he began to speak.."Look," she said, halting. "Medra, look.".what was largest -- intelligent students of the planet!.Hand said, "Irian, I am sorry. Ivory was my pupil. If I taught him badly, I did worse in sending.breath. She stepped back from him..Her ignorance and trustfulness could endanger her and therefore him. What did she and the bagman.When she asked him if students came there from the Great House, he said, "Sometimes." Another time.till Diamond was sixteen. A big, well-grown youth, good at games and lessons, he was 'still ruddy-.Hand had already stretched out to other islands all around the Inmost Sea. As the Women of the.He told Dragonfly very little of his plans, largely because he made few, trusting to chance and.chanted, the ballads sung, often with a percussion accompaniment; professional chanters and.Licky had told him that it was the fumes of the metal rising from heated ore that sickened and killed the people who worked in the tower. Otter had never entered it nor seen Licky enter it. He had come close enough to know that it was surrounded by prisoning spells that would sting and bewilder and entangle a slave trying to escape. Now he felt those spells like strands of cobweb, ropes of dark mist, giving way to the wizard who had made them..straightening up and looking about vaguely as if for an answer, or a ewe, or a towel. "You have to.prove it, he made it seem that a herd of deer ran through the dining hall, followed by a flight of.into death, and return - it was not right. They broke a law that must not be broken. It was to.At the stream Serrenen, where it runs within the north wall of the city, the midwife gave Otter.The Kargs are deeply resistant to writing of any kind, considering it to be sorcerous and wicked. They keep complex accounts and records in weavings of different colors and weights of yarn, and are expert mathematicians, using base twelve; but only since the Godkings came to power have they employed any kind of symbolic writing, and that sparingly. Bureaucrats and tradesmen of the Empire adapted the Hardic runes to Kargish, with some simplifications and additions, for purposes of business and diplomacy. But Kargish priests never learn writing; and many Kargs still write every Hardic rune with a light stroke through it, to cancel out the sorcery that lurks in it..again. A great, desolate anger swelled up in him. There was no good, no good in anything..something she'd always known, while the answers to his questions were things she had never.When he was done Veil was silent a long time and then said, "That was what you meant, when you.When she did so, Alder's wife Tawny and several other people agreed with her that a squabble.....".wanting a boy to work on his boat, or a girl to train in the weaving sheds, or he was buying.and sensed danger..down, dark water crept and seeped through soft earth over the ledge of mica. Under that opened the.looked at him kindly..give Anieb to her to hold. He did so at last, watching to see if she was gentle with his friend."And mine with you, my ember of fire, my flowering tree, my love, Elehal.". "You have-" he said-"you have to go. Back." As he said "Back," his left hand struck down on the.Herbal, master of the arts of healing.you drunken, crawling traitor! You foul, shameless lecher!".At the sides of our ramp appeared whirling green circles, like neon rings suspended in.window looking out on a back-street. No spells - you can't make spells with all their magic going.There were moments when she became quite lovely, particularly when she narrowed her eyes,.A child ran bawling to its mammy. No one else was about. But Early turned his head, still with.But beyond the rich and the lordly were those called the Men of Power: the wizards. Their power,.I gave up..I went outside. It was indeed a park. The trees rustled incessantly, invisible in the gloom.

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AM]. School, and Halkel discouraged wizards from teaching women anything at all. He specifically soon as he saw the old man. Berry went and fetched his sister, after he had heard Sunbright's tale at the tavern, and San's version of it, and several other versions already current. In the best of them, Otak had towered up ten feet tall and struck Sunbright into a lump of coal with lightning, before foaming at the mouth, turning blue, and collapsing in a heap. the park I had ridden up, yet back there, in the plaza with the dancing colors and where the streets. He sat up, sat still. "You never sent to me, you never let me send to you, all the time you were gone. I was just because he treated me the way a doctor would an abnormal patient, pretending, and very well, Thirst: and with it pain. Thirst, and the sound of water running." "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." in hiding, under the newer, institutional religions of the Twin Gods and the Godking. morning, hot, the summer sunlight filtering through the leaves in a thousand shades of green. A little mare. The curer followed. The hinny had a smooth, long-legged walk, and her whiteness shone. think of using magic to free himself or stop the men's brutality. He flung himself at them and stopped again, looking as if he were in intense pain, hunched and clenched. He struggled to stand. We know a dozen different Arthurs now, all of them true. The Shire changed irrevocably even in. gleamed below, on either side opened passageways in buildings; beneath a tree with blue leaves - like that, she seemed to enter that place or time or being beyond herself, utterly beyond Rose's. "Oh, yes," Irioth said. "It was my fault." But she forgave; and the grey cat was pressed up and walls and every window spouting fire. Women ran out of it screaming. They had been hiding no. gazed at the trinkets as if they were treasures. He let them gaze and finger all they would; built of stone, but was half empty, defaced, window frames and facing stones pulled out of it. her free. I know nothing. If you know how to be free, I beg you, teach me!" "I will," said Ivory, with a wink at Dragonfly. She, well disguised in dirt and a farmhand's old. wizardry was an honored art, conferring status and power, while witchery was an unclean and because they all needed what warmth there was to be got from the fire, but they did not want him. In the doorkeeper's box, which was like a giant's overturned bathtub, sat a robot, "Wherever you like." for he could not make the werelight shine in that room. The day came unspeakably welcome, even. "Do you know the way in?" His almond-shaped eyes were attentive, yet seemed to look at her from. King Maharion himself, the story says, journeyed to Selidor to "weep by the sea." He retrieved Erreth-Akbe's sword and set it atop the highest tower of his palace. and saw the wizard standing before him, looming above him. Gelluk had never met a man he feared. A few wizards had crossed his path strong enough to make him. Magic. She looked at him in the starlight, and said, "Tell me your name - not your true name - only what I can call you. When I think of you." of the Dragonlords, as the tale goes on, the names and exploits of these wizards begin to eclipse. have a good time, go to the real, dance, play tereo, do sports, swim, fly -- whatever one wants." freedom was. Without her, he could attain it only when he was hearing and singing and playing. why did you come back here?" Earthsea over thirty years ago: I needed to know where things are, and how to get from here to. It struck with one huge thunderclap out of sudden utter blackness and wild rain. The ship pitched like a horse rearing and then rolled so hard and far that the mast broke loose from its footing, though the stays held. The sail struck the water, filled, and pulled the galley right over, the great sweeps sliding in their oarlocks, the chained slaves struggling and shouting on their benches, barrels of oil breaking loose and thundering over one another-pulled her over and held her over, the deck vertical to the sea, till a huge storm wave struck and swamped her and she sank. All the shouting and screaming of men's voices was suddenly silent. There was no noise but the roar of the rain on the sea, lessening as the freak wind passed on eastward. Through it one white seabird beat its wings up from the black water and flew, frail and desperate, to the north. uncaring, disembodied eye. He could see only what the flicker of werelight showed just around him. what the wizard was telling him. Yet he was certain, now, that Gelluk's ideas, the teaching he so. He had not known how tired he was until he came to haven. He spent all that day drowsing before the fire with the grey cat, while Gift went in and out at her work, offering him food several times-poor, coarse food, but he ate it all, slowly, valuing it. Come evening the brother went off, and she said with a sigh, "He'll run up a whole new line of credit at the tavern on the strength of us having a lodger. Not that it's your fault." His face was a warrior's face, but when he looked into the trees it was softened, yearning. Rose dismissed all she had taught or could teach with a flick of the fingers. vomiting and shuddering, and San was staring and trying to say, "Avert! Avert!" And no harm was. Three children, two boys of fifteen or sixteen and a girl of twelve, were taken by one of Losen's. at last. He dreamed of long mountainsides veiled by rain, and the light shining through the rain. though it is made of horn and framed in dragons tooth and carved with the Thousand-Leaved Tree, "A shirt." "So when the Windkey returned, we were nine again. But divided. For the Summoner said we must meet.-- I felt a number of amused stares, or so it seemed to me. I quickly turned away and walked. Master Hemlock's house he was reciting lists of names, or wondering what would be for dinner, for. become them to guide them, but he could not hurry. There was on him the bewilderment of any. He was in fact a town boy, born in Gont Port. He had said nothing about himself, but Dulse had asked around a bit. The father, a longshoreman, had died in the big earthquake, when Silence would have been seven or eight; the mother was a cook at a waterfront inn. At twelve the boy had got into some kind of trouble, probably messing about with magic, and his mother had managed to prentice him to Elassen, a respectable sorcerer in Valmouth. There the boy had picked up his true name, and some skill in carpentry and farmwork, if not much else; and Elassen had had the generosity, after three years, to pay his passage to Roke. That was all Dulse knew about him. wizard Hemlock, who had known his great-uncle the Mage, came up from South Port to name him. And. They walked a half-mile or so. The Knoll rose up full in the western sun on their right. Behind. as if his body became the body of earth, and he knew its arteries and organs and muscles as his. sellers and net makers and such, had gone from Roke to, other lands around the Inmost Sea, weaving. That gave her pause. She stood silent. "It's the name the witch Rose of my

village on Way gave me, in the spring under Iria Hill," she said at last, standing up and speaking truth..to the right of the hearth, and took up her mending. "Get warm through, and then I'll show you. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (62 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].strong there, she said." .down. I saw alternating layers of darkness, and the cross sections of ceilings; white with reddish.because they were Gontish matters, truths of Gont. They were not written even in Ard's lore-books,."Tonight," Dragonfly said. "At our spring, under Iria Hill. What he doesn't know won't hurt him." Her voice was half-coaxing, half-savage..difficulties in his path and always greeted him kindly. But she had said, "What can you tell me.They went there together and stayed till the winter came. In the year that followed, they built a little house near the edge of the Thwilburn that runs out of the Grove, and lived there in the summers..She came back into herself, into the still air under the trees. The Hoary Man sat near her, his.pure, making his subjects pure!" He drew Otter to the edge of the roasting pit. His eyes shone in.though little exercised, was absolute. In their hands lay the fate of the long-kingless kingdom of.Taking me there?".No wind stirred. The air was soft, the big sail hung slack. Only the western stars faded and.took none against their will, their parents or masters seldom knew the truth: Tern was a fisherman."It wasn't a matter of time only. First she had to. . . see something in him, get to know

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