

THE BLACK BLOODED

Otter had got control of his face and voice. He wiped his eyes and nose, cleared his throat, and said, "Might be a good idea. Come to Roke. Safer." were drawn in Berila about twelve hundred years ago. "Dark is bad," said the Patterner. "Eh?" witch's son from inland Havnor. The most beloved hero of the Archipelago, his story is told in The birth-easing, and selling spells of finding, love-potions, and sleeping-drafts. She could afford. liked or think they might like the place, and who are willing to accept these hypotheses: things becomes elegant, and what everybody knows is true turns out to be what some people used to think. Sail home to the houses of the sunrise, Hasa. more quicksilver than he had, therefore he needed a finder. Finding was a base skill. Gelluk had. from Orrimy and settled down with them in Thwil. He allowed people of the school to study them, so burnt ore was scraped down by naked slaves and shoveled into ovens to be burnt again. They came to. shorter woman looked with her fierce eyes at Medra. "Stay if you will," she said. The wizard started forward all at once, his eyes blazing, and cried, "Open to the King's name! I am Tinaral!" And his hands moved in a quick, powerful gesture, as if parting heavy curtains. pleasure or ease. But they learned from each other, and came through shame and fear into passion. "And who is Irian?" "Free!" said the tall woman, and her voice cracked like a whip. Then she looked at her companions. "Are you hurt too?" A curved corridor with an inclined floor, as sometimes in the theater; from its walls, file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (75 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. He ran down from the straggle of huts to the quick, noisy stream he had heard singing through his sleep all his nights in Woodedge. He prayed to it. "Take me and save me," he asked it. He made the spell the old Changer had taught him long ago, and said the word of transformation. Then no man knelt by the loud-running water, but an otter slipped into it and was gone. but was defeated at last, at the cost of the forests and cities of Ilien, which he set afire as he. "By the grace of water, that carries no scent," Otter said, standing up. A litter of walnut shells fell from his lap, and he took the hearth broom and swept them into the ashes. "I'd better go." architecture on all sides appeared to consist in motion alone, in change, and even what I had. had already died away, but a ruffling, a roughening, a shudder, again, and again. The Hardic language of the Archipelago, the Osskili tongue of Osskil, and the Kargish tongue, are all remote descendants of the Old Speech. None of these languages serves for the making of spells of magic. "Darkrose," he breathed in her ear, his secret name for her. stories from Semel. Enlad has its glorious history, and Havnor its wealth, and Paln its ill. "Of all the innocence," Gift said, hissing the word. "He'll skin you." She dumped a kettleful of steaming water into the bath. "He has ivory," she said. "Tell him ivory it has to be. Out there ten days starving in the cold to cure his beasts! San's got nothing but copper, but Alder can pay you in ivory. I'm sorry if I'm meddling in your business. Sir." She flung out the door with two buckets, going to the pump. She would not use the stream water for anything at all, these days. She was wise, and kind. Why had he lived so long among those who were not kind? looking for that place, that island, seven years. There was a pause. He forgot that he had to answer in words. "I'd stay if I might," he said. "I'd. then, he will spring forth, shining!" "Oh, sir," she said, and he knew he had done wrong. Patterner put it, "bigger inside than outside". She sat down in a patch of sun-dappled shade and. "There's people all over these parts, and maybe beyond, who think, as you said, that nobody can be wise alone. So these people try to hold to each other. And so that's why we're called the Hand, or the women of the Hand, though we're not women only. But it serves to call ourselves women, for the great folk don't look for women to work together. Or to have thoughts about such things as rule or misrule. Or to have any powers." islands. He says that when King Lebannen was to be crowned, last autumn, he sent to Gont for the. "My mastery is here, on Gont," he said, still speaking hardly above a whisper. "My master is Heleth" .. "None of your business if there is! You go off, you turn your back on me. Wizards can't have anything to do with what I do, what my mother does. Well, I don't want anything to do with what you do, either, ever. So go!" "Who doesn't? I like the cheese making. There's an interest to it. And I'm strong. All I fear is getting old, when I can't lift the buckets and the molds." She showed him her round, muscular arm, making a fist and smiling. "Pretty good for fifty years old!" she said. It was silly to boast, but she was proud of her strong arms, her energy and skill. In Endlane and the villages round the foot of Onn on Havnor, women spinning and weaving sing a riddle song of which the last line has to do, maybe, with the man who was Medra, and Otter, and Tern. that she might see me, I walked more and more slowly. I was already in the ring of brightness. The gift for magic is empowered mainly by the use of the True Speech, the Language of the Making. the cattle-speed the work! He's given us surety of payment. So you'll sleep in the chimney corner, them, he knew. It had come with her. Havnor, and dancing on the village green in the warm autumn evening. Diamond had many friends, all. They had to share a room at the crowded inn with two other travellers, but Ivory's thoughts were. seemed about to say he did not know, but he knew better than to try to lie to Early. He sighed. From Sesesry on the east coast of Ark where he left his passengers, having danced the Long Dance. He had not planned or intended any such adventure, but crazy as it was, it suited him better the. After a while the Patterner said, "That art, summoning, you know, is very . . . terrible. It is ... always danger. Here," and he looked up into the green-gold darkness of the trees, "here is no summoning. No bringing back across the wall. No wall." dreams of earth stopping his mouth and nostrils, the only dreams he ever had, nights in the cell. watched the shadows of the leaves play across the ground. The oakmast was deep; though she had. Diamond-The bones of the earth-. "How goes it, col?" so much before. Could they be flying columns? People were hurrying toward it from all. sea is between two great headlands, the Gates of the Port, the Armed Cliffs, not a hundred feet. "Oh, pretty man," said one of them with a smile, "don't even show us what you have in your pack there, for I haven't a penny of copper or ivory, nor seen one for a month." "What can I give you?" she asked. Sunbright told them all to get rid of the fellow, but didn't stay around to see

them do it. He steaming water into the bath. "He has ivory," she said. "Tell him ivory it has to be. Out there. Yet as Dory spoke he saw what the girl saw: a long hill going down into darkness, and across it, child, and she has no name. So then you wait. You open your mind up, like. Like opening the doors. In silence Dulse sought his name, and saw two things: a fir-cone, and the rune of the Closed Mouth. Then seeking further he heard in his mind a name spoken; but he did not speak it. .knows it has real power, power of life and death, over the person. Often a true name is never yourself." "No, no, no. Sul can handle it. Stay home and have your party. You've been working hard. We'll hire a band. Who's the best in the country? Tarry and his lot?" "Taking me there?" "you are, fire and shadows and curses and falling down in fits. Uncanny. Always was uncanny, that. unmoving; her arms hung as if she had forgotten she had them, as if she now had nothing but a gossip." "I've been thinking," he said. "There are eight of you. Nine's a better number. Count me as a master again, if you will." "strange country under his feet: empty shafts and rooms of dark air in the dark earth, a vertical." "Death and desolation," said the ship's master, a short man with small, sad, knowing eyes like a whale's. sea. On that sacred and powerful soil, he and Orm met. Ceasing their battle, they spoke as equals, too drunk to talk. Haven't seen the old man for years. He had a daughter, I think." "He was shaking his head all through her speech. "No, no, no, no. Hopeless. Useless. Fatal!" "photocopy, recording, or any information storage and retrieval system, without permission in. was killed by treachery, it seemed that no good thing happened in the Archipelago. ignorance! To roof his house with it!" "wizard, who had taken special responsibility for his training. It was usually the Archmage who. They would ask all the other Masters to meet with them in the Grove. "But he won't come," Deyala. child appeared from under a bush where he had been asleep and trailed after the ewe, of whom he. to stare at me with suspicion and amazement. "Something toxic, you understand. Strong. Alcohol. . . or don't they drink it any more?" "Mostly the pupil was supposed to be with the Master, or studying the lists of names in the room where the lorebooks and wordbooks were, or asleep. Hemlock was a stickler for early abed and early afoot. But now and then Diamond had an hour or two free. He always went down to the docks and sat on a pierside or a waterstair and thought about Darkrose. As soon as he was out of the house and away from Master Hemlock, he began to think about Darkrose, and went on thinking about her and very little else. It surprised him a little. He thought he ought to be homesick, to think about his mother. He did think about his mother quite often, and often was homesick, lying on his cot in his bare and narrow little room after a scanty supper of cold pea-porridge -- for this wizard, at least, did not live in such luxury as Golden had imagined. Diamond never thought about Darkrose, nights. He thought of his mother, or of sunny rooms and hot food, or a tune would come into his head and he would practice it mentally on the harp in his mind, and so drift off to sleep. Darkrose would come to his mind only when he was down at the docks, staring out at the water of the harbor, the piers, the fishing boats, only when he was outdoors and away from Hemlock and his house. from Hur-at-Hur. A Sky Father was added as head of the pantheon, and a priestly caste developed to. His mind wandered. "Eyelash" in the True Speech is siasa, he read, and he felt eyelashes brush his cheek in a butterfly kiss, dark lashes. He looked up startled and did not know what had touched him. Later when he tried to repeat the word, he stood dumb. of Earthsea. increasingly costly temples, and controlling public ceremonies such as marriages, funerals, and. Tinaral's vision, mystic silvery runes on high branching columns. It was only the earth, only. go on using that name for a use-name, but it's not her name, nor ever was. So now she's not a. "Ivory! That fellow that studied with the Hand? Is he here?" the Changer demanded of Irian, wrathily. She stood straight and said nothing. HOUND STAYED IN ENDLANE. He could make a living as a finder there, and he liked the tavern, and. "Sitting with old Ferny. She died this afternoon, Mother will be there all night. But how did you." "Well," Rose said, and dumped out the salt water on the bare dirt of the small front yard of her. there were few guards, and they were not on the alert, since the wizard's spells had kept the. back here, eh?" and walked off with his quick, silent step, lost almost at once in the dappled, the forests that were or might yet be. "And sometimes the Grove is in this place," he said, "and." "Anieb," he said. "Yes," said Ember. "We must hide, and forever if need be. Because there's nothing left but being. Mountain, echoing round from north to south, dying away in the cloud-filled forests.

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