

THE DOWN EASTERS C C C VOL 1 OF 2

A few times, sitting on the waterstairs, the dirty harbor water sloshing at the next step down, without the eight months at Adapt. But now, perhaps even more than before, I did not want to go. He said, "I lost my way. Have I come to the villager?" His voice was hoarse and harsh, a beggar's voice, but not a beggar's accent. ceilings, of those mysterious columns, and was reflected by the silver surfaces; it bled into every. and charms to ensure the good outcome of such undertakings was shared among the witches. But when. I jumped back; the possessor of the voice, the fat one with the cap, appeared. I went to. the Summoner should do so continued to shock and disturb her as she thought about it. "Maybe you can find that island," said Ayo. THEIR MEETING PLACE was in the shallows, the willow thickets down by the Amia as it ran below the smithy. As soon as Rose got there, Diamond said, "He wants me to go study with Master Hemlock! What am I going to do?" The making from the unmaking, in a child's broken arm. I have known wise people, she thought. Her mind flinched away from. There was the silence. Then a fish leapt from the black, shaking water, a white-grey fish the length of his hand, and as it leapt it cried out in a small, clear voice, in that same language, "Yaved!" Early waved his hand. Hound sniffed, nodded, and left. teller came to tell it. Diamond nodded, suffering, contrite, unrebelling, unmovable. glory was there in the palaces of the city when nobody lived in them but crawling slaves? He could. they are spoken. lengthened a day by five hours, though he could not, as he had sworn to do, stop the sun at noon. Her apparition stood again just outside the spiderweb cords of the spell, gazing at him, and seeing him, for a soft, bluish, sourceless light filled the room. Her sore, raw lips quivered but she did not speak. the shipwreck and the long night flight, and the grey beach led him only to the feet of sheer. has clung to it since. Witches paid dearly for practicing the arts they thought of as their own. The wizard who called himself Gelluk and the pirate who called himself King Losen had worked together for years, each supporting and increasing the other's power, each in the belief that the other was his servant. out again in haste; they threw torn ribbons on the floor, not telegraph tapes, something else, with. about the floor, about Silence. Had he been out walking on the path above the Overfell? No, that. that was a true joy, which may be enough to ask for, after all. There were only dragons, to begin with. They found the tooth on Mount Onn, in Havnor, at the. grief. And so, when it became clear that the boy had a gift of magery, his father tried to beat it. This language is innate to dragons, not to humans, as said above. There are exceptions. A few human beings with a powerful gift of magic, or through the ancient kinship of humans and dragons, know some words of the Old Speech innately. But the very great majority of people must learn the Old Speech. Hardic practitioners of the art magic learn it from their teachers. Sorcerers and witches learn a few words of it; wizards learn many, and some come to speak it almost as fluently as the dragons do. the trees. "Stay tonight. You will?" "But I came far. Miles can be years. I am Kargish, from Karego. You know?" Irioth tried to say he did not want a quarrel. He tried to say that there was work for two. He tried to say he would not take the man's work from him. But all these words burned away in the acid of the man's jealousy that would not hear them and burned them before they were spoken. "If I do, it will be thanks to you," she said. In that moment he loved her for her true heart, and would have forsworn any thought of her but as his companion in a bold adventure, a gallant joke. story of how Erreth-Akbe lost the Ring of Peace, and the new songs and the King's Tale about how. "Do what?" HOUND STAYED IN ENDLANE. He could make a living as a finder there, and he liked the tavern, and. gathering, intolerable tension. He told Dragonfly very little of his plans, largely because he made few, trusting to chance and. "Whatever for?" hands. Again his glance flicked to Irian and away. learned wizardry, fed the chickens, milked the cow. He suggested, once, that Dulse keep goats. He. but religious and secular power was henceforth in the hands of the Godking, chosen (often with. He could no longer see the chambers and passages of the cave as he had seen them with the uncaring, disembodied eye. He could see only what the flicker of werelight showed just around him and before him. As when he had gone through the night with Anieb to her death, each step into the dark. the tavern crew wouldn't let it rest, it being the only thing of interest to talk about for the. "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. She was in his charge, in his care, he had known that when he saw her. Though she came to destroy. The house vanished. No walls, no roof, nobody. Early stood on the dust of the village square in. "I can build boats, or mend them, and sail them. I can find, above and under ground. I can work. was years ago, years ago, in the sunlight. It was raining. He had fed the chickens, and come back. "I can't call you." bareback and made the going easy. But there was nothing left for him to eat. When he rode back to. forward to see where the sign came from, and flinched. The back of my seat moved with my. and in its walls were thin, crimson, crumbling beds of cinnabar... He made no sign. He thought. unmoving; her arms hung as if she had forgotten she had them, as if she now had nothing but a. "Didn't know you were after him. I've been after him a long time. He fooled me." Hound spoke without rancor. For a long time nobody would touch him. He had fallen down in a fit in San's doorway. He lay there now like a dead man. But the curer from the south said he wasn't dead, and was as

dangerous as an adder. San told how Otak had put a curse on Sunbright and said some awful words that made him get smaller and smaller and wail like a stick in the fire, and then all in a moment he was back in himself again, but sick as a dog, as who could blame him, and all the while there was this light around the other one, Otak, like a wavering fire, and shadows jumping, and his voice not like any human voice. A terrible thing.. "Practice," Rose said, rather sourly. "I know." She flicked a pebble at Diamond. It turned into a "Free!" said the tall woman, and her voice cracked like a whip. Then she looked at her companions, and after a while she smiled a little. Turning back to Medra, she said, "We're prisoners, and so freedom is a thing we study. You came here through the walls of our prison. Seeking freedom, you say. But you should know that leaving Roke may be even harder than coming to it. Prison within prison, and some of it we have built ourselves." She looked at the others. "What do you say?" she asked them..reached dry ground and coarse grass, and heard the buzz of midges and crickets. He sat down then..had done..the stems of the grass where it stepped or sat. "I've done nothing but set the city in a panic, ".softly in the tops of tall trees, on beyond the gardens..twenty-five. A while ago now. He had been truly a boy then, long-legged, rough-haired, soft-faced.,file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/D...20%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (9 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].interrupt their tete-a-tete. I must have committed some impropriety. He looked me up and down.,Hemlock dismissed that with a flick of his hand. "I am talking of the True Art," he said. "Now I will be frank with you. I advise you to write your parents -- I shall write them too -- informing them of your decision to go to the School on Roke, if that is what you decide; or to the Great Port, if the Mage Restive will take you on, as I think he will, with my recommendation. But I advise against visiting home. The entanglement of family, friends, and so on is precisely what you need to be free of. Now, and henceforth.".The last beans had got big and coarse on the vines; the cabbages were thriving. Three hens came.Grove they were all of one kind, which grew nowhere else, yet had no name in Hardic but "tree" In.Her brother came in. "Come on out," he said to her as soon as he saw the curer dozing on the settle. She stepped outside with him..the ending from the beginning..still very sore.."I am not ashamed," Irian said. She looked at them all. She felt that she should thank them for..centre of the world. And the leaves of the tree are carved so thin that the light shines through."What for?".Medra bowed his head, standing there. "Anieb," he said, "can you come back this far? I don't know."I can protect you here, and have done so. On Roke, of course, you'll be perfectly safe. The very.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..Ember usually scowled when he greeted her. She asked him abrupt questions, listened to his.After a long pause he went on. "You know that a dragon brought back our Lord Sparrowhawk, with the..about dragons. You know there's been talk of them flying over the Inmost Sea as far east as Gont..He took the word with a visible shock, but did not deny it..more quicksilver than he had, therefore he needed a finder. Finding was a base skill. Gelluk had..Quite early on, impatient with wooing her massive physical indifference, he had worked up a charm.."So we must follow her?" the Herbal asked..He swept out the dust and leaves that had blown in the open door across the polished wood. He set Heleth's mattress and blanket in the sun to air. "I'll stay here a while," he thought. "It's a good house." After a while he thought, "I might keep some goats"..or through him. He didn't know what he was doing, or what she was doing, and he was almost certain.the installation of officials..She stepped across the threshold of the Great House.."But power - like you told me about - that .isn't the same as making people do what you want, or..said, "Let us have the witch.". "Stay"..up from Gont Port, last spring, to lay a floor in the old house. They had had one of their.Her guest came out of the house. It was a bright, misty morning, the marshes hidden by gleaming vapors. Andanden floated above the mists, a vast broken shape against the northern sky..said, and Azver nodded.."That's Roke Knoll, lad," the weatherworker said to Dragonfly, who stood beside him at the rail, "We're coming into Thwil Bay now. Where there's no wind but the wind they want"..increasingly on wizards to fend off dragons and Kargish fleets. In the Havnorian Lay and The Deed.convenience to the wizard, who had got used to having his wants provided, his time free, and an..All day he stayed near the Otter's House, keeping watch on Irian, making her eat a little with..and the bush-beans. She looked at the Doorkeeper; he smiled a little. She followed the pale-haired.They worked and taught in the Great House. They saw it go up stone on stone, every stone steeped in spells of protection, endurance, peace. They saw the Rule of Roke established, though never so firmly as they might wish, and always against opposition; for mages came from other islands and rose up from among the students of the school, women and men of power, knowledge, and pride, sworn by the Rule to work together and for the good of all, but each seeing a different way to do it.."Ah," said the Patterner. "Hard for the housekeeper to give up the keys when the owner comes home.".The roof of the cavern was far above him. The trickle of water dripping from the mica ledge glittered in short dashes in the werelight..address:.gave her mine." He spoke haltingly, with long pauses. "It was I that walked with the wizard..provided new clothes if Rose had asked for them, but she never did. Rose had looked after herself.waking up, it occurred to me: I was on Earth.."We are four against him," said the Patterner..She stood straight up in the water..little, small spell, to send the rain on round the mountain. His bones ached. They ached for the..of Ard's was no son of his, had nursed his rage and died unforgiving.."About the hundred years?".When he had done what he could to warn the city, and seen all the gate-guards and port-guards doing what they could to keep the few roads out from becoming choked and murderous with panicky people, Ogion shut himself into a room in the signal tower of the Port, locked the door, for everybody wanted him at once, and sent a sending to the Dark Pond in Semere's cow pasture up on the Mountain..miners forbade it, earnestly believing it was the worst of bad luck for a man to pick up a shovel.They were not far inside the Grove, and still beside the stream, when Irian stopped, turned aside.,passes all the trade and

commerce and learning and craft of Earthsea, a wealth not hoarded. There. In Losen's service was a man who called himself Hound, because, as he said, he had a nose for. He stood there a long time before he went down through the high grasses and the sparkweed. At the foot of the hill he came into a lane. It led him through farmlands that looked well kept, though very lonesome. He looked for a lane or path leading to the town, but there never was one that went eastward. Not a soul was in the fields, some of which were newly ploughed. No dog barked as he went by. Only at a crossroads an old donkey grazing a stony pasture came over to the wooden fence and leaned its head out, craving company. Medra stopped to stroke the grey-brown, bony face. A city man and a saltwater man, he knew little of farms and their animals, but he thought the donkey looked at him kindly..saw the red ridge of the mountain in the dawn. Anieb died while he held her, her ruined face. 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." "your bed," she said. "There's no fire in that room. Did you meet weather, up on the mountain? They.guess, foretell, fear, hope, but I didn't know..her bright eyes on Tern, and he nodded..go at once, on what business he could not say, of course, but it should not take long once he was.very much greater, the wholeness of knowledge. And that made him a mage..liked or think they might like the place, and who are willing to accept these hypotheses: things.was frightened?".getting old, when I can't lift the buckets and the molds." She showed him her round, muscular arm..of glass, metallic sounds, repeated, incomprehensible. The crowd that had carried me here."Oh," she said with a full mouth, "I didn't know how hungry I was!".In her bed, in the dark, she lay and thought: He knew the wizard who named me. Or I said my name.. "I don't know," he said. "Maybe we should not leave Roke." "He lived here," Dory said, a glimmer of pride breaking a moment through her helpless pain. "The."Indeed, for the sailors feared him too, and kept him bound that way all the voyage. When the.something more in her, something beyond what she was. And when Irian looked away from the world.shoes walking round Andanden on the cruel roads of black lava. The soles were worn right through.. "Why so, Tern?".Diamond nodded eagerly..Printed on narrow sands under granite cliffs, in the first light, were the tracks of a bird.you, to make it so complete and deep that the Masters of Roke will see you as a man and nothing.It's unsettling. For all our delight in the impermanent, the entrancing flicker of electronics, we.The boy was in fact a workman of the first order, carpenter, cabinetmaker, stonemason, roofer; he had proved that when he lived up here as Dulse's student, and his life with the rich folk of Gont Port had not softened his hands. He brought the boards from Sixth's mill in Re Albi, driving Gammer's ox-team; he laid the floor and polished it the next day, while the old wizard was up at Bog Lake gathering simples. When Dulse came home there it was, shining like a dark lake itself. "Have to wash my feet every time I come in," he grumbled. He walked in gingerly. The wood was so smooth it seemed soft to the bare sole. "Satin," he said. "You didn't do all that in one day without a spell or two. A village hut with a palace floor. Well, it'll be a sight, come winter, to see the fire shine in that! Or do I have to get me a carpet now? A fleecy one, on a golden warp?".Dragonfly peered close at Rose's work. Rose brought out a maggot, dropped it, spat on it, and..way, so that she began to wonder if men from foreign parts were all so much handier about the.Irioth did not say yes, or no, or thanks, but went off unspoken. The cattleman looked after him and spat. "Avert," he said..After the death of Orm the dragons remained a threat in the West, especially when provoked by

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