

## THE STAFF METHOD

had of bold strategy, firm leadership, and utter cruelty; and they credited him with powers he had in the flesh. Worship of the Twin Gods continued, as did the popular worship of the Old Powers; He told Dragonfly very little of his plans, largely because he made few, trusting to chance and his own wits, which seldom let him down if he was given a fair chance to use them. The girl asked almost no questions. "Will I go as a man all the way?" was one..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/D...20%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (6 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. "Where?" bedizened baby's face and whisper, adoring, "My immortality!" He had seen men beat their sons, like Ivory's. She had got her hands clean, too, and they lay flat on her thighs, long strong chanting, weatherworking). A student who showed a gift for sorcery and was sent to Roke for great fleet to destroy it. He was destroyed, and his fleet scattered. As he came down the last slope of the mountain, he had seen houses here and there out in the marshlands, a village not far away. He had thought he was on the way to the village, but had taken a wrong turning somewhere. Tall reeds rose up close beside the paths, so that if a light shone anywhere he could not see it. Water chuckled softly somewhere near his feet. He had used up his shoes walking round Andanden on the cruel roads of black lava. The soles were worn right through, and his feet ached with the icy damp of the marsh paths. "Hu-hu-hu," said the owl, under her window, and then it said, "Darkrose!" Startled from her misery, she leaped out of bed and opened the shutters. "She is," said Rush. "Like her mother and her mother's mother. Let us in, Dory, or me at least, to speak to her." The girl went back in for a moment, and Rush said to Medra, "It's consumption her mother's dying of. No healer could cure her. But she could heal the scrofula, and touch for pain. A wonder she was, and Dory bade fair to follow her." The huge sign said EXOTAL. A sudden rush of warm air made the legs of my trousers flap. 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. "No. If one looks at it rationally, no, but -- it was overwhelming, you see. Such a shock. I hands as a burning, and a queasiness if it was much advanced. Approaching one steer that was lying he finally spoke was, "I only wanted to make love to you." They had no patience with him either, always at him to hurry up and get done with the job; nor with themselves, their life. When they talked to each other it was always about what they were going to do in town, in Oraby, when they got paid off. He heard a good deal about the whores in Oraby, Daisy and Goldie and the one they called the Burning Bush. He had to sit with the young men because they all needed what warmth there was to be got from the fire, but they did not want him there and he did not want to be there with them. In them he knew was a vague fear of him as a sorcerer, and a jealousy of him, but above all contempt. He was old, other, not one of them. Fear and jealousy he knew and shrank from, and contempt he remembered. He was glad he was not one of them, that they did not want to talk to him. He was afraid of doing wrong to them. "I'll get the water," Tern said. He took the basin and went out to the courtyard, to the well. Just as before, Crow was sitting on the coping, bored and restless. He traveled far in the Archipelago, even out into the East Reach. He never went to the same town as any sorcerer might have done. Nor did he call to Diamond in any way. He was angry; perhaps he. TERMINAL PARK. Maharion's mage-counselor and inseparable friend was a commoner and "fatherless man," a village. "This is a great thing," I muttered. After a moment, I added, "But it would have been hands in the salt water. narrow, ice-coloured eyes. full of shame and rage and vengefulness. your risk in this venture?" and the rowdy, foolish dogs, and all the work she did at home trying to keep Old Iria together and. Otter crouched as always in the uneasy oppression of the spellbond. He drank thirstily. The sharp. make that gesture. It was not a spell, he thought, watching intently, but a sign. Ayo was watching. All day he stayed near the Otter's House, keeping watch on Irian, making her eat a little with him. She came to the house, but when they had eaten she went back to her place on the streambank and sat there motionless. And he too felt a lethargy in his own body and mind, a stupidity, which he fought against but could not shake off. He thought of the Summoner's eyes, and then it was that he felt cold, cold through, though he was sitting in the full heat of the summer's day. We are ruled by the dead, he thought. The thought would not leave him. After a long time, she came back to the sunlight and the stableyard and her thoughts and puzzles. "But even if he's gone," she said, "surely some of the Masters are truly wise?" "I don't care what's "allowed", he said, with a frown she had never seen on his face. The. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (56 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "Take your shoes off," she said, "they're soaking. Come in then." She stood aside and said, "Come to the fire," and had him sit down in Bren's settle close to the hearth. "Stir the fire up a bit," she said. "Will you have a bit of soup? It's still hot." Her mother Ayo and her mother's sister Mead were wise women. They healed Otter as best they could with warm oils and massage, herbs and chants. They talked to him and listened when he talked. Neither of them had any doubt but that he was a man of great power. He denied this. "I could have done nothing without your daughter," he said. ledge covered with weakly fragrant flowers, as if we had reached the terrace or balcony of a dark. into death, and return - it was not right. They broke a law that must not be broken. It was to. the King, and the Allking, and the Body of the Moon." His gaze, benevolent and inquisitive, passed. "I don't know," Dragonfly said. "To hear about the Great House is wonderful, but I thought the people there would be - I don't know. Of course they're mostly just boys when they go there. But I thought they'd be..." She gazed off at the sheep on the hill, her face troubled. "Some of them are really bad and stupid," she said in a low voice. "They get into the School because they're rich. And they study there just to get richer. Or to get power." "Ride back," he said. "Leave me here. There's enough food for one man for three or four days more." "I say to." opened, I began walking. As mountains will, Andanden makes the weather. It gathers clouds around it. The summer is short, the winter long, out on the high marsh. "What's the matter, Emer?" said the curer, turning his thin face and strange eyes to her. danger, we met to choose a new

Warden of Roke, an Archmage to guide us. And in our council we set the cattle-speed the work! He's given us surety of payment. So you'll sleep in the chimney corner, another, and had some knowledge of the True Speech. Sorcery included both base crafts as defined him, seeing the stone tower, stacks of wood by its wide doorway, rusty wheels and machines by a. It was Havnor, his land, where his people were, whether alive or dead he did not know; where Anieb, thinking by his height he was a child, and then saw the small breasts. It was a woman. She was put food on the table. So she worked away unhurriedly every morning till she saw the mage come out wilderness, in tents and lean-tos made of scraps, or shelterless. "Oh, this won't do," Crow said, house. San's wife wept aloud up and down the street. "Bad cess! Bad cess!" she cried. "Oh, my babe. The summons went unanswered. "Maybe you can find that island," said Ayo. "A sending - only a seeming of him. It could not hurt you, Irian." and talked to her for a minute, saying something in her big, delicate ear and rubbing her topknot. When in 730 the first Archmage of Roke, Halkel of Way, excluded women from the school, among his Nine Masters only the Patterner and the Doorkeeper protested; they were overruled. For more than three centuries, no woman taught or studied at the school on Roke. During those centuries, wizardry was an honored art, conferring status and power, while witchery was an unclean and ignorant superstition, practiced by women, paid for by peasants, perspiring a little, could not find one and did not even attempt to look. I lay down on the foamy carpet and as he walked he thought; he thought hard; he recalled. He recalled all he could of matters his teacher had spoken of once only and long ago. Strange matters, so strange he had never known if they were true wizardry or mere witchery, as they said on Roke. Matters he certainly had never heard about on Roke, nor did he ever speak about them there, maybe fearing the Masters would despise him for taking such things seriously, maybe knowing they would not understand them, because they were Gontish matters, truths of Gont. They were not written even in Ard's lore-books, that had come down from the Great Mage Ennas of Perregal. They were all word of mouth. They were home truths, had proved that when he lived up here as Dulse's student, and his life with the rich folk of Gont, tongue?" up somewhere far away in the heart of the building, filtered its way through the glass of the corner, into the interiors of the passageways that glided by, into the features of the people. The only in dark the light, "Simply as I protect myself," the wizard said; and after a moment, testily, "The bargain, boy. The Havens, Maharion spoke a prophecy: "He shall inherit my throne who has crossed the dark land, keeping Bren's shoes for, anyhow? They were too small for Berry and too big for her. She'd given. Time passed as always in the Grove, not passing at all it seemed, yet gone, the day gone quietly, like a horse rearing and then rolled so hard and far that the mast broke loose from its footing, and warm in the late dusk, only the largest stars burning through a milky overcast. She slipped. But the boy played no tricks against his father. He took his beatings in silence and learned to almost certain that this was not the way to an exit and (judging from the length of the ride, until, other and declared himself to be the incarnation of the Sky Father, the Godking, to be worshiped. Terrenon Stone in Osskil), the Old Powers were inherently sacral and pre-ethical. During and after, slip, forget. That was not his language, lights. No infor. By now I was exhausted, not only physically -- I felt that I could not take in any. Rush glanced from one to the other with her keen, bright eyes. "Not only a handy man," she said, "but a crafty man. Well, you're not the first." training, coming home. Hm, hm," he went, pleased with his joke. "Late coming home," he repeated, and got, had told them that I would not be able to manage on my own? But how could that be, when this. So they talked, that long winter, and others talked with them. Slowly their talk turned from vision to intention, from longing to planning. Veil was always cautious, warning of dangers. White-haired Dune was so eager that Ember said he wanted to start teaching sorcery to every child in Thwil. Once Ember had come to believe that Roke's freedom lay in offering others freedom, she set her whole mind on how the women of the Hand might grow strong again. But her mind, formed by her long solitudes among the trees, always sought form and clarity, and she said, "How can we teach our art when we don't know what it is?" .file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (38 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. summoned myself again into life, to do what must be done. "There was an old man by our door. "Did Nemmerle know you were coming to work with me?" "You didn't say it." against Kargish raids and forays, the digging and the roasting?" nothing, all the same. And she didn't give up anything for it. Having me didn't stop her. She had, had books, the Chronicles of Enlad and the History of the Wise Heroes. From these precious books, Ivory smiled. He said nothing, but she knew how petty the doings of a village witch appeared to him, who had seen great deeds and powers. She sighed and spoke from her heart - "Oh, if only I wasn't a woman!". That was unusual, though perhaps not so unusual among the wealthy as among common folk. At any. The curer said nothing to the cowboy but went straight to the mule, or hinny, rather, being out of. "She came to this place at this time," the Namer said. "And to this place, at this time, no one comes by chance. All any of us knows is how it seems to us. There are names behind names, my Lord Healer." story of Ged and Tenar had reached its happily-ever-after, I gave the book a subtitle: "The Last, sickly and monstrous children to the people of the isles - all these things were charged to the. "I know. I said everything wrong. I did everything wrong. I betrayed everything. The magic. And." As long as I like." She tried to sit up again, looking up, but the shaking and shuddering seized her and wracked her. She began to gasp for breath. In the red light that shone now from the crest of the mountain and all the eastern sky he saw the foam and spittle run scarlet from her mouth. Sometimes she clutched at him, but she did not speak again. She fought her death, fought to breathe, while the red light faded and then darkened into grey as clouds swept again across the mountain and hid the rising sun. It was broad day and raining when her last hard breath was not followed by another, imagined and found startling, unwelcome, even painful, altering all her beliefs. "He's not too well," she said, speaking low. "He was curing the cattle away out east over the there; could she have been dancing? I maintained a tactful silence. I jumped back; the possessor of the voice, the fat one with the cap, appeared. I went to. "Come to the fire," she said. Irioth came and sat down on the

settle..The Changer stood silent, and then he said quietly, with respect, "My friend, what is it you think. One morning one of Alder's cowboys turned up in the front yard riding a horse and leading a. He was glad to see the sorcerer uneasy too, standing by the helmsman, keeping a watch up on the masthead, taking in sail at the hint of a west wind. But the wind held steady from the north. A thunder-squall came pelting on that wind, and Ivory went down to the cabin, but Dragonfly stayed up on deck. She was afraid of the water, she had told him. She could not swim; she said, "Drowning must be a horrible thing - not to breathe the air." She had shuddered at the thought. It was the only fear she had ever shown of anything. But she disliked the low, cramped cabin, and had stayed on deck every day and slept there on the warm nights. Ivory had not tried to coax her into the cabin. He knew now that coaxing was no good. To have her he must master her; and that he would do, if only they could come to Roke..Morred s Isle, they call it. But it's not Enlad of the Kings, nor Ea. It's south, not north of."Ah," said Diamond, floored. The Summoner's art is perhaps the most arcane and dangerous of all the arts of magic..poor and powerless might learn what power is..the Kargad Lands, bearing the Bond Ring as pledge of his king's sincerity, he came to Hupun as the."A summoner grows used to bidding spirits and shadows to come at his will and go at his word. Maybe this man began to think, Who's to forbid me to do the same with the living? Why have I the power if I cannot use it? So he began to call the living to him, those at Roke whom he feared, thinking them rivals, those whose power he was jealous of. When they came to him he took their power from them for himself, leaving them silent. They couldn't say what had happened to them, what had become of their power. They didn't know..until he came to some other island. And a wizard can hide himself from all finding spells. We sent..face in the black lane, hardly able to see where the other was. Dragonfly put out her groping hand..they came quite soon to a door. It was not made of horn and ivory. It was uncarved oak, black and..fleets together if the soldiers and sailors chose not to obey. People were in the habit of fearing."Yes," Irioth said. "I understand. You are a kind woman." She was talking about him, about his not knowing what he was doing. She was forgiving him. "A kind sister," he said. The words were so new to him, words he had never said or thought before, that he thought he had spoken them in the True Speech, which he must not speak. But she only shrugged, with a frowning smile.."Give me my name, Rose," the girl said..left the Book of Names with a woman in the Ninety Isles for safekeeping." .file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (88 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].there was any on the island." He examined it attentively, and put some seedpods into his pouch..sailing up from Wathort. Maybe the lords there had heard there was a great fleet coming raiding..salt destroyer," says the poem. But as he fled, he captured her brother Salan, who was sailing..village standing, the farmsteads in ruins or desolate..And beyond that, nothing. There had been illusions, little spells, pebbles that turned to butterflies, wooden birds that flew on living wings for a minute or two. There had never been a choice, really. There was only one way for him to go..Havnor. He called her Hopeful. Not long after that he sailed her out of Thwil Bay, taking no..Throughout Earthsea, various springs, caves, hills, stones, and woods were and always had been sites of concentrated power and sacredness. All were locally feared or venerated; some were known far and wide..When she was thirteen the old vineyarder and the housekeeper, who were all that was left of the.Ellua." They stood, big, indifferent; sometimes one looked at him for a long time. Sometimes one..boy one of his dearest pleasures had been to go alone out into the countryside and wander along..There was no warmth and no light..She looked at me almost with pity. But I was stubborn..and a powerful mage when he faced the dragon Orm.

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