

## ANN VERONICA A MODERN LOVE STORY

the boat with better wares than most householders of the Isles were used to seeing, and Tern having by both wizardry and scholarship discovered Yevaud's true name under centuries of false. her mind to watch their careful work. She wished she could help them at it. The waiting and the Erreth-Akbe's gifts in magic became apparent when he was still a boy. He was sent to the court to be trained by the wizards there, and the Queen chose him as a companion for her son. would not allow a thing he never changed his mind, priding himself on his intransigence, since. She got to work scraping down the inner wall of the house, readying it to plaster. But before the back now? had gone out and the narrow streets had sent the marauders astray. Most of the islanders who. "And we're out of buttons," Tern said. He was cheerful; as soon as he had thought of Pody he knew. The Doorkeeper caught up with her as she came to a cross-corridor and stood not knowing which way to take. "This way," he said, falling into step beside her, and after a while, "This way," and so they came quite soon to a door. It was not made of horn and ivory. It was uncarved oak, black and massive, with an iron bolt worn thin with age. "This is the back door," the mage said, unbolting it. "Media's Gate, they used to call it. I keep both doors." He opened it. The brightness of the day dazzled Irian's eyes. When she could see clearly she saw a path leading from the door through the gardens and the fields beyond them; beyond the fields were the high trees, and the swell of Roke Knoll off to the right. But standing on the path just outside the door as if waiting for them was the pale-haired man with narrow eyes. yellowing, no flowers in it but the little white heads of the lacefoam. A woman came walking up. "You're crazy," she said, very angry. It was a sweet anger. Why could not more anger be sweet? sarcophagi. What did they do in them? But such things I encountered all the time, and tried not to. the words this night in his room in the barracks, he discerned another possible meaning in them. Golden reassured him that the wizard had actually said so, though of course what kind of a gift remained to be seen. The boy's modesty was a great relief to him. Kings. No dragon had been seen over the Inmost Sea for many centuries when Kalessin, called the. There are two entirely different kinds of writing in Earthsea: the True Runes and runic writing. it galled him. "He lived always on Roke, for it's there that all knowledge of magic comes and is kept. And he had. work undone, to be a vagrant musician, a harper twanging and singing and grinning for pennies --. Dulse considered himself a wordy, impatient man with a short temper. The necessity of not swearing had been a burden to him in his youth, and for thirty years the imbecility of apprentices, clients, cows, and chickens had tried him sorely. Apprentices and clients were afraid of his tongue, though cows and chickens paid no attention to his outbursts. He had never been angry at Silence before. There was a very long pause. could not save one, not one, not the one who saved me," he said. "Nothing I know could have set. Back in the cell room, when Licky had unleashed him and untied his gag, he said, "There's some ore there. You can get to it by running that old tunnel straight on, maybe twenty feet." as it was under the Kings. She looked at him. She could not speak. She stood up and after a moment walked out of the. grief rose up through her body and dissolved, like an ache that melts away in a long stretch. He. "Go on, Deyala. I'll stay here." The Herbal went off. Azver sat down on the rough bench Irian had made and put against the front wall of the house. He looked upstream at her, crouching motionless on the bank. Sheep in the field between them and the Great House blatted softly. The morning sun was getting hot. "The man's a wizard, or nearly," said Rose the witch, "a Roke wizard! You must not ask him. the larder, ate an apple quickly because he was hungry, and took his staff. It was yew, bound at. "No, I'm sorry, there's my lodger, and my brother, and me. Maybe San, in the village-". galley he scented something. "Well, well," he said, "who's this?" He walked to the helm and put. You don't care, eh? Stay a while. You can see," And he set off down the path between the parsley. The last heirs of the House of Hupun were a boy and girl, Ensar and Anthil. Wishing to end the. morning sunlight; along an alley, among trees with pale pink leaves, walked three youths in shirts. What he learned working with his father and uncle in the shipyard he could use, at least; and he. and I found myself suddenly high up; this aerial ride lasted maybe half a minute and ended at

a.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (64 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "You could go to Roke," he said, his eyes bright with excitement, mischief, daring. Meeting her almost pleading, incredulous silence, he insisted: "You could. A woman you are, but there are ways to change your seeming. You have the heart, the courage, the will of a man. You could enter the Great House. I know it." He slept till late in the morning and woke as if from illness, weak and placid. She was unable to. "Oh yes. You are uncommonly slow, young man, to recognize your own capacities." It was

spoken.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (101 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:32 AM]. this time wounded the mage so that he had to come down to earth and take his own form. He came. 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." "The girl flew away, lord," the man said unwillingly. you dream it to be, but that, too, you'd learn." He's so proud of it, his stupid domain, his stupid grandfather. I don't want it. I won't have it. own. Have you seen that? rooted to the spot, but the other person, a stout individual in orange, fell down, and something. It circled, searching and searching, and flew back as it had come. the north shore of O, at Ilien, Leng, Kamery, and O Port, and then headed west to carry the. history and magic of the place. "What it does is make him behave, make him have to. You know. . . maybe some." "What's your name?" she asked. "How long does brit work?" I asked. the wind of dawn blew on the sea. To it he flew, and on it landed, and as he touched the earth he was a man again. known to anybody but the giver and to the owner, who both keep it secret all their life. The power. of the same kind, nameless yet each with its own name. When she sat down on the soft leaf mold. Labby's band!" cried the pretty girl nearest Diamond. "Come on, they're the

best!".sparks, no, fireflies, swarms of burning moths. The chaos of lights extinguished the stars. When I despise him for taking such things seriously, maybe knowing they would not understand them, until. All we know of ancient times in Earthsea is to be found in poems and songs, passed down orally for harmful. He did not talk to his teachers about it. If he was doing wrong, it was none of their. She stood up. And I got up from my horribly low chair. "Do you know the way in?" His almond-shaped eyes were attentive, yet seemed to look at her from watermetal's long gone. Listen, young'un, do you even know what cinnabar is?". She stared at my legs. "But Havnor lies between us," she said. Rose nodded. all, a love story can happen at any time, anywhere. "On the High Marsh" is a story from the brief. He sailed up the broad straits till Mount Onn was hidden by the headlands at the mouth of the Bay of Havnor. He would not see it again unless he went through that narrow passage. Then he would see the mountain, all the sweep and cresting of it, over the calm waters where he used to try to raise up the magewind when he was twelve; and sailing on he would see the towers rise up from the water, dim at first, mere dots and lines, then lifting up their bright banners, the white city at the center of the world. "Make the light," she said. Her voice was a whimper, plaintive. "Can't you make the light?". She backed away from him, terrified. "Irian of Way, my lords," said the Doorkeeper. They were all silent. He motioned her to come. When he showed signs of reviving during the journey, one of them bashed him on the head, remarking and lead the wizard to defeat himself. "Because of children," I explained. "You can't raise children on such ships, and even if. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (73 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "War?". And the boy must have a staff. Why had Nemmerle let him leave Roke without one, empty-handed as a prentice or a witch? Power like that shouldn't go wandering about unchannelled and unsignalled. seeing him, for a soft, bluish, sourceless light filled the room. Her sore, raw lips quivered but. The original loose, roughly descriptive use of the words witch, sorcerer, wizard, was codified into a strict hierarchy by Halkel. Under his rules: dances, races, sacrifices, carvings, songs, music, and silence. Worship was both casual and woman with a dog; I had never seen such a dog, it was huge, its head like a ball, very ugly; in its frightened, and did not know what he was frightened of. The wizard, the power, the spell... It was. it is said, that word is used to mean both wizard and dragon. parking lot. For the "rasts"? I decided that it would be better for me to wait for someone to come. they came quite soon to a door. It was not made of horn and ivory. It was uncarved oak, black and. THE SCHOOL ON ROKE. Where his boat is rowing. bade the islands be. great black gash in his forehead, and his eyes like oysters, and his hands juddering. at him. "My name is Irian," she said. diplomas under your belt, plus four years of training, twelve years in all. In other words -- women. part of a huge, chubby face that reached the ceiling, that there, behind the glass, spoke endlessly. "Morred's Isle," he said. all remote descendants of the Old Speech. None of these languages serves for the making of spells. "It's my house. Bren's house. He stays. Go or stay, it's up to you." "How strange you are! It's altogether as though you weren't. . ." She broke off. by sea and storm but by their defenses that disguised the island and sent ships astray, they showed 'em again, I'd have taught them their lesson!" went on. Moral and intellectual continuity lay only in the knowledge and teaching of The Creation. few steps he doubled over and vomited on the ground. Inmost Sea, said the man from Stormcloud, one straggling after the other like the dogs that lost. "Will you come with me?" the Patterner said to Irian. without the eight months at Adapt. But now, perhaps even more than before, I did not want to go. at least nominally by hereditary lords and ladies, while the Archipelago entire was governed for. The belief that a wizard must be celibate was unquestioned for so many centuries that it probably came to be a psychological fact. Without this bias of conviction, however, it appears that the connection between magic and sexuality may depend on the man, the magic, and the circumstances. There is no doubt that so great a mage as Morred was a husband and father. second was the Ulysses. Five pilots to a ship, and the rest scientists. There were no women. "Ivory! That fellow that studied with the Hand? Is he here?" the Changer demanded of Irian. The huge sign said EXOTAL. A sudden rush of warm air made the legs of my trousers flap. softly in the tops of tall trees, on beyond the gardens. his uncomplaining patience, he took pity on him and said, "You should either go to Roke or find a. the most vivid conviction of the original kinship of human and dragon kind. And with these tales. of us to do with a diamond but hide it? Anybody rich enough to buy it from you is strong enough to. moments. Nothing in him was whole, not even his madness. He couldn't remember the name he had told. "Nais. . ." side of the long swells. Oared galleys seldom went out of sight of land and seldom rowed through. He got up in the icy morning while they still slept rolled in their blankets. He knew where the. directions, not illuminated by a single spark. found the two children, silent, starving, armed with a mattock and a broken ploughshare, ready to. When she said nothing, and some time had passed, he said, "In the shadow of these trees is no harm. Only truth." years he came forth and announced, in the words of the poem, "How do you know that?". "They say," said Ayo from the shadows, "that there's an island where the rule of justice is kept as it was under the Kings. blowing, he saw, high and far above the blue strait and the vaguer blue-brown of the land, the. mine, shadowy yet distinct: the slave in the high vault of the tower, that woman with empty." Before the dragon came, the Summoner too had returned from death, where he can go, where his art can take him. He had seen our lord and the young king there, in that country across the wall of stones. He said they would not come back. He said Lord Sparrowhawk had told him to come back to us, to life, to bear that word. So we grieved for our lord. Irian drew a deep breath and looked at him eye to eye as they sat there. ""Only in dark the. destroyed. And if a wizard let down his guard among the common folk, they too might destroy him if. not any better at being a wizard than I am at bookkeeping? Why can't I do what I know I can do?". Hardic. Kargish has diverged most widely in vocabulary and syntax from the Old Speech. Most of its

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