

## BACKWAYS

then suddenly you come out under the sky. In the Court of the Fountain, in the very deepest inside. she could not take in the names of the masteries, except that the Master Herbal was the one she. unintentionally, and for the second time felt an invisible resilience that kept me from crossing the. he cleansed me, so that each time we grow purer together." The wizard took Otter's arm and walked. The witch emerged with a soapstone drop-spindle and a ball of greasy wool. She sat down on the bench beside her door and set the spindle turning. She had spun a yard of grey-brown yarn before she answered.. returned. . . The Prometheus -- my ship -- remained on Luna. I came from there today. That's all." "The house is all right?" "She gave me freedom," he said. "And I still feel that all I do is done through her and for her.. Back Cover:.. memory, which is a form of imagination. The event is real now, but once it's then, its continuing. He had not thought. He had taken the shape that came soonest to him, run to the river as an otter would, swam as the otter would swim. But only in his own form could he think as a man, hide, decide, act as a man or as a wizard against the wizard who hunted him.. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (47 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. name but said only, "mistress." "I'll tell him that the changes in a man's life may be beyond all the arts we know, and all our." "She bled again just now, and I couldn't stop it," Dory said. Tears ran out of her eyes and down her cheeks. Her face hardly changed.. few steps he doubled over and vomited on the ground.. "The witch Rose of our village, lord," she answered, standing straight, though her voice came out high-pitched and rough.. would not set his burden down on the load, but clambered into the cart holding her, and held her. chanting, weatherworking). A student who showed a gift for sorcery and was sent to Roke for. "Once I was on the high slopes," Mead said, "and a spring snowstorm came on me, and I lost my way. She came there. She came to me, not in the body, and guided me to the track. She was only twelve then." a certain word, a password, before he'll let you in. If you don't know it, you can never go in.. stampeding cattle, setting fires, and destroying farms all through the western isles. Somewhere. the sun a couple of fingers' width above the horizon. Looking under the sun he saw the roofs of a. He saw the lines of the spells that held him, heavy cords of darkness, a tangled maze of lines all. "Until the wind changes, eh?" said the Patterner.. For a while I let myself be carried along by the white walkway, until it occurred to me. They keep complex accounts and records in weavings of different colors and weights of yarn, and. wrong more often than right, with the wizards warring, using poisons and curses recklessly to gain. intermarrying with various noble houses of the Archipelago, the royal house embraced five." And a man comes when you knock, an ordinary-looking man. And he gives you a test. You have to say. "I do want you to stay. But don't stay! You're a finder, you have to go find. It's only that. The boy shook his head at each question. He shut his eyes; his mouth was already shut. He stood there, intensely gathered, suffering: drew breath: looked straight into the wizard's eyes.. "Captain," he said, "I'm sorry, I must wait to spell your sails. An earthquake is near. I must. rushed in. The voices of the passengers getting out of their seats were completely drowned in it. I. similar to my sweater but with a full, inflated collar sat sideways at a table, a glass in his hand,. Nobody would touch him. They stared from a distance at the heap lying in the doorway of San's. greeting people, I no longer crushed their hands. That was easy. But, unfortunately, the least. face. She put her hand to the door and it opened, but not into an apartment; the floor moved softly. "More a mater of getting in with it, I think." The old man was burying the core of his apple and the larger bits of eggshell under loose dirt, patting it over them neatly. "Of course I know the words, but I'll have to learn what to do as I go. That's the trouble with the big spells, isn't it? You learn what you're doing while you do it. No chance to practice. "Ah-there! You feel that?" Gelluk was standing still, but his shaking hands were clenched, his whole tall body twitching and. "Better stay here." said. "It's at daybreak a name should be given. And then there ought to be music and feasting and. which useful, which dangerous; why some people had one gift but not another, and whether you could. shadow under the throat of her shirt.. Space wasn't half so scary, half so strange, or even half so alien, as what Hal Bregg. "You can. Oh, you can!" They held each other tight, hard, silent.. for a long time. To Diamond it was as if he held his future, his own life, his whole life, in his arms.. He was half asleep, sitting on the ground in the shade by the barracks, the smell of the logs stacked by the roaster tower bringing him a memory of the work yards at home, the fragrance of new wood as the plane ran down the silky oak board. Some noise or movement roused him. He looked up and saw the wizard standing before him, looming above him.. They sat unspeaking. The crisis passed. Heleth relaxed a little and even smiled. "Very old stuff." "But, he said, it must be learned and practiced for its own sake." it thickened and darkened, creeping out over the slow waves.. South of Andanden lies a land where the ashes fell a hundred feet deep when last the volcano. thinking that his daughters were of noble blood.. "What I have to do, you see," the old wizard said, still talking to Silence because it was a. It took him a long time to cross the cavern. He put his bad arm inside his shirt and kept his good. but religious and secular power was henceforth in the hands of the Godking, chosen (often with. across half the world. Turning west he saw fields and pastures and roads. To the north were long. wharf, when the streets ran up and down in waves, the cobbles bursting out of them, and walls of. "I wanted to ask you to go away with me," he said.. witchery. His employment was to sniff Losen's food and drink and garments and women, anything that. "He knows a curer, maybe." When she returned, she was carrying a tray with cups and two bottles. Squeezing one bottle. Dulse knew better than to ask for explanation. The need to speak such a spell could not come. "No. I don't. Rose wouldn't teach me. She said she didn't dare. Because I had power but she didn't know what it was." island of the Archipelago, Havnor, to settle disputes among the city-states there. Returning in. My expression amused her. I looked at her; she stopped smiling.. "I am." "What's wrong?" she asked. The gentleness of her deep, husky voice unmanned him, and he hid his. On his rides, he sometimes passed an old house on a hill among great oaks. When he turned

off the would be sure to reach Ark before the Long Dance..were people of the Hand in the Great Port. Though he had not known of them as a boy, he should years, in the minds of most people, all magic was black..LANGUAGES."Where My Love Is Going".enormous female face, exactly as if a dark-skinned giantess were peering through a window into."We should find shelter and rest," he said..Not long since, he had sent for Hound on some business, and when it was done the old man had said."Ride back," he said. "Leave me here. There's enough food for one man for three or four days more..of his art. He found out what he could. Then the boy was no good for anything and had to be..When (in the year 440, by Hardic count) Erreth-Akbe came to make peace between the Archipelago and the Kargad Lands, bearing the Bond Ring as pledge of his king's sincerity, he came to Hupun as the capital of the Kargad Empire and treated with King Thoreg as its ruler..Most people of the Archipelago have brown or red-brown skin, black straight hair, and dark eyes; Whether performed or read silently, all such poems and songs are consciously valued for their leg. "Get the saddle off her," she said, and her tone held the unspoken, impatient, "you fool!".Ivory, had been all too unprotected. If anybody was under a spell of chastity it must have been..and the last line of the first stanza:.the Kargish king wear Morred's ring," the Queen Mother said. So, bringing it as the most generous..A child ran bawling to its mammy. No one else was about. But Early turned his head, still with..that surrounded the stone circle. Her voice grew stronger, she summoned the darkness, pleaded,.Banners still flew from the towers of the City of Havnor, and a king still ruled there; the."I may be able to help the beasts.".But the other learning he had been given had made Otter touchy in these matters, delicate

of.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (10 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].Ilien was the first of his house to take the throne in Havnor. His granddaughter was Queen Heru;.immensely dangerous. Ordinary people-and dragons-keep their true name secret; wizards hide and."When the balance is wrong, holding still is not good. It must get more wrong," said the Patterner. "Until -" He made a quick gesture of reversal with his open hands, down going up and up down..Ivory clapped his hand to his right leg. A dog's tooth had ripped his breeches at the calf, and a trickle of blood came through.."I don't know, my dear. I do want you to be safe. I do love to see your father happy and proud of you. But I can't bear to see you unhappy, without pride! I don't know. Maybe you're right. Maybe for a man it's only one thing ever. But I miss hearing you sing.".The Summoner looked up at Irian. Slowly he raised his arms and the white staff in the invocation of a spell, speaking in the tongue that all the wizards and mages of Roke had learned, the language of their art, the Language of the Making: 'Irian, by your name I summon you and bind you to obey me!'.some kind. This happened so suddenly that I froze..flames flickered between their knees, and at the bottom lay the unbroken black surface of an..The donkey leaned its head hard against his hand so that he would go on scratching the place just above its eyes and below its ears. When he did so, it flicked its long right ear. So when he parted from the donkey he took the right hand of the crossroad, though it looked as if it would lead back to the hill; and soon enough he came among houses, and then onto a street that brought him down at last into the town at the head of the bay..on the island..there were few guards, and they were not on the alert, since the wizard's spells had kept the."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..confused.."My place," she said, slowly, the words dragging, "my place is on the hill. Where things are what they are. Tell the dead man I will meet him there.".file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (23 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].Ayeth's stare grew more insolent as he watched Irioth stammer. He began to say something to San, but Irioth spoke..Maybe this man began to think, Who's to forbid me to do the same with the living? Why have I the binding spell on the boy that held him upright and immobile as a stone statue, and left him so

for.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (32 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].year's leaf by her hand.."But the Summoner fought him both in body and spirit, and called to me, and I came. Together we fought against the will that would destroy us.".lenses?) -- suddenly disappeared; his seat expanded at the sides, which rose and joined to form a..He was gone several days. When he returned, riding in a horse-drawn cart, he had such a look about..thick grey hair flowed loose about his face. "I know you found that little patch for them to dig..OTTER WAS THE SON of a boatwright who worked in the shipyards of Havnor Great Port. His mother..aloud..out to be a thief. I mean, there ought to be a little trust.".did not try to catch up with them. The buildings parted, and I caught sight of a huge sign --..house. "Let him crawl home to his mother.". "You wanted to. . .".You can know anything you like. I need have no secrets from you. Nor you from me," and he laughed,.Mouth. Then seeking further he heard in his mind a name spoken; but he did not speak it.."You can? Is it allowed?". "Ride back," he said. "Leave me here. There's enough food for one man for three or four days more. The hinny will bring me back.".He knew now, from Elehal and others on Roke, what that wall was. It lay between the living and the..her timbers creaked a little, a slaves chain rattled, rattled again..village. He still would not let her go, holding the rain-wet, stiffened body against him as if to..made and put against the front wall of the house. He looked upstream at her, crouching motionless..fluff that became more and more transparent as it descended. Her slim, lovely belly was like a..Knowing the Enemy's name, he was able to counter his enchantments and drive him from Enlad, pursuing him across the winter sea, "riding the west wind, the rain wind, the heavy cloud." Each had met his match, and in their final confrontation, somewhere in the Sea of Ea, both perished..personally, was not one she could keep in mind. She tried to be respectful, but it was impossible..how sweet life was. He had bought the Reche grove, at a very stiff price to be sure, but at least."Maybe I came to destroy him.".dim at first, mere dots and lines, then lifting up their bright banners, the white city at the..like all women, she was inclined to babble and gossip, and indiscriminate in her friendships. The."Father, I don't want a party," Diamond said and stood up, shivering his muscles like a horse. He..After Golden had gone out, she found her son in the counting-room going through ledgers. She

looked at the pages. Long, long lists of names and numbers, debts and credits, profits and losses..Gelluk was standing still, but his shaking hands were clenched, his whole tall body twitching and trembling, like a hound that wants to chase but cannot find the scent. He was at a loss. There was the hillside with its grass and bushes in the last of the sunlight, but there was no entrance. Grass growing out of gravelly dirt; the seamless earth..behind a city horse, in a city cart, like a prince!".spells were a mere rumor among those who had taught him his sorcery, he summoned the woman in the them, not keeping them secret each to himself, as the wizards do.".childlike almost, I could not make out the words, perhaps there were no words. Her mouth was."That's a formality. We senior sorcerers may carry a staff when we're on Roke's business. Which I.Speech means Willow. "I don't entirely understand it. I think you don't understand it at all. Take.Her father's ancestors had owned a wide, rich domain on the wide, rich island of Way. Claiming no title or court privilege in the days of the kings, through all the dark years after Maharion fell they held their land and people with firm hands, putting their gains back into the land, upholding some sort of justice, and fighting off petty tyrants. As order and peace returned to the Archipelago under the sway of the wise men of Roke, for a while yet the family and their farms and villages prospered. That prosperity and the beauty of the meadows and upland pastures and oak-crowned hills made the domain a byword, so that people said, "as fat as a cow of Iria', or, "as lucky as an Irian'. The masters and many tenants of the domain added its name to their own, calling themselves Irian. But though the farmers and shepherds went on from season to season and year to year and generation to generation as solid and steady as the oaks, the family that owned the land altered with time and chance.."I don't understand! Explain this to me. Tell me. You see a man who appeals to you, and

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