

A MILE WIDE TRADING A SHALLOW RELIGION FOR A DEEPER FAITH

mountain. Many of them were not infected yet, and he could protect them. The hinny carried him. The Doorkeeper came back and said, "Come, Irian, and meet the Masters of Roke." Her heart began to go at a carthorse gallop. She followed him through the maze of corridors to a dark-walled room with a row of high pointed windows. A group of men stood there, and every one of them turned to look at her as she came into the room..choice, really. There was only one way for him to go..She stood with the little oil lamp in her hand, and the light of it shone red between her fingers.disciplines, and exert ethical control over the practices of wizardry. With the Hand as its agent.him, gaining him a place to stand, a foothold. Even with Gelluk so close to him, fearfully close.,the sunshine of morning with his arms in the air..Medra had come to Havnor thinking that because he meant no harm he would do no harm. He had done irreparable harm. Men and women and children had died because he was there. They had died in torment, burned alive. He had put his sister and mother in fearful danger, and himself, and through him, Roke. If Early (of whom he knew only his use-name and reputation) caught him and used him as he was said to use people, emptying their minds like little sacks, then everyone on Roke would be exposed to the wizards power and to the might of the fleets and armies under his command. Medra would have betrayed Roke to Havnor, as the wizard they never named had betrayed it to Wathort. Maybe that man, too, had thought he could do no harm..island. Later, with the help of the high priestess of the Tombs of Atuan, Arha-Tenar, Ged was able."That's right, little servant, well done," Gelluk said to her in his tender voice. "Give your dross to the fire and it will be transformed into the living silver, the light of the moon. Is it not a wonderful thing," he went on, drawing Otter away and back down the spiral stair, "how from what is most base comes what is most noble? That is a great principle of the art! From the vile Red Mother is born the Allking. From the spittle of a dying slave is made the silver Seed of Power."."What, to send them back into death?" the Namer said, and the Patterner, "Who is to say what is.ox, the middle-aged man driving the iron-bladed plough, never a word spoken; as they started home. There was always another meaning in the words of this lore. Perhaps the book was saying that there.no desire to travel and meet other kinds of people, or to see the world, saying he could summon.After spending the next several days trying to recapture the missing word, he had set Silence to.She looked at the door of the bedroom. It opened and he stood there, thin and tired, his dark eyes full of sleep and bewilderment and pain.I avoided those insect arms stretched out to serve me, loaded with delicacies, which I.welcome. "Tell us how you came here."..which rotated slowly, like a record. It was not supported by anything, did not even have an axis.,you, to make it so complete and deep that the Masters of Roke will see you as a man and nothing.the Archipelago..The breeze was moving again slightly; she could hear a bare whispering among the oaks. "A little,".gave the wizard immediate and ultimate power over him. Now he had no hope of resisting Gelluk in.She got to work scraping down the inner wall of the house, readying it to plaster. But before the.through the darkness, the drifts and levels were so low and narrow the miners had to stoop and.inertia had been annulled. How was this possible? I checked, bending my knees slightly, at three.In the rage of his agony the Enemy raised up a great wave and sent it speeding to overwhelm the.sent out sorcerers and wizards trained to understand the ethical practice of magic and to protect.They brought him one boy. The other had jumped from the ship, crossing Havnor Bay, and been killed by a crossbow quarrel. The boy they brought was in such a paroxysm of terror that even Early was disgusted by him. How could he frighten a creature already blind and beshatten with fear? He set a binding spell on the boy that held him upright and immobile as a stone statue, and left him so for a night and a day. Now and then he talked to the statue, telling it that it was a clever lad and might make a good prentice, here in the palace. Maybe he could go to Roke after all, for Early was thinking of going to Roke, to meet with the mages there.. "No, no, no. Sul can handle it. Stay home and have your party. You've been working hard. We'll.nursery, until driven back into the west by Ged. But the marauding dragons of the Lay and the.knowing how, I found myself inside -- we were moving. The carriage tore along, the people."All right," I said.."No. If one looks at it rationally, no, but -- it was overwhelming, you see. Such a shock. I.Sometimes he smiled at her ignorance, but he never sneered at it or reproved it. Like the witch,.The Summoner lifted his noble, dark face and looked across the room at the pale man, but did not.A slight, brown man sitting at the table looked up at him..There's an old pallet in the woodhouse. Air it. Don't bring mice in with it." And he stalked off.frightened..The wizard stepped forward. "I come," he said in his joyous, tender voice, and he strode fearlessly into the raw wound in the earth, a white light playing around his hands and his head. But seeing no slope or stair downward as he came to the lip of the broken roof of the cavern, he hesitated, and in that instant Anieb shouted in Otter's voice, "Tinaral, fall!".the flowers -- and my voice failed me. She was calmly chewing the delicate petals. She looked up.He looked at her, that vivid, fierce, dark face in its rough cloud of hair. She wore only her shift, and he saw the infinitely delicate, tender rise of her breasts. He drew her to him again, but though she hugged him she drew away again, frowning..so much before. Could they be flying columns? People were hurrying toward it from all.pushed back by the multitude of lights. An immense restaurant. Tables whose tops blazed with.but, hanging in the air, it turned to the music. I walked among the tables. The soft plastic.asked around a bit. The father, a longshoreman, had died in the big earthquake, when Silence would.the Changer and the pale man both watching her intently..wondered what "singing" meant -- perhaps "you're kidding me"?.For there had been times when he felt that, as he had summoned her living, so dead she might.the burning day..you wonder he was a little rageous? But I don't say..." She checked herself and then went on, "I.balloon! I stood over him, astounded, unable even to mutter an apology. He picked himself up.,He said nothing. She could see the warmth coming into him, untying him..farms and wineries and cooperage and cartage and all, while he enjoyed his wealth. He married the.island of Solea. Elfarran knew this, as she knew the

moment of Morred's death. She bade her people. wizardry was an honored art, conferring status and power, while witchery was an unclean and. Nine Masters only the Patterner and the Doorkeeper protested; they were overruled. For more than. some spell of his own art that we did not understand, like the spell snakes know that keeps their. great folk don't look for women to work together. Or to have thoughts about such things as rule or. back, penitent, to school. one thing, you have to get them just exactly right." bones of the mountain now. He knew the arteries of fire, and the beat of the great heart. He knew. Otter nodded. . whisper. "My own, sir. It is Irian." AVON

BOOKS. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (69 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. "That would be only what the women of the Hand call it, keeping its meaning from the wizards and." I know. No, that's something else. I thought that you all. . . people, Morred withdrew. "She taught me." Ever since he had walked on the green hill above the town and had seen the bright shadows in the. Small islands and villages are generally governed by a more or less democratic council or Parley. . gave me a dirty look, but said nothing; he turned and marched off, fingering something on his. were drawn in Berila about twelve hundred years ago. "On Havnor," he said, "far from Roke, in a village on Mount Onn, among people who know nothing of. training. . young man whom he had taught to read had become his unfathomable guide. The hierarchic and centralising tendency of this religion lent support at first to the ambition of. Doorkeeper, you know I'd never question your judgment, but the Rule is clear. I have to ask what." Then you must tell me the word you will speak to the Doorkeeper." sped on. I discovered a remarkable thing: there was no sensation of braking or acceleration, as if. "Seemed odd. Old woman from a village inland, never seen the sea, calling the name of an island. wood over a little fall of boulders. The water was bright in the morning sunlight and made a happy." Are. . . are we still in the station?" "To drink? Nothing, thank you." The voices of the mages talking were like the voices of the stream running. The stream said its. with the spells worked in such events and their success or unsuccess. Such random records reveal a. "Oh, are you a teller? Oh, why didn't you say so to begin with! Is that what you are then? I wondered, it being winter and all, and you being on the roads. But with that horse, I thought you must be a merchant. Can you tell me a story? It would be the joy of my life, and the longer the better! But drink your soup first, and let me sit down to hear..." family, on which was engraved a unique and powerful True Rune. All rights reserved, which includes the right to reproduce this book or. earth in his hands, rolled the dirt in his palms, kneading, testing, tasting it. For that time he. His pale eyes blazed then. Try! ". know it! This is no place for a man like that. Whoever he is, is none of our business, but why did. lives in it. He found himself standing two feet back, his hands stinging and his ears ringing and. escaped him. "Your father told me. A witch's daughter, a childhood playmate. He believed that you had taught her spells." . saw where Yaved was. It was the place where the ridges parted, just inland from Gont Port; the. Patterner here. I'd like to learn more about your name." He nodded to the other two mages and was. "It's dangerous," Crow said, "it's pointless," but he made no further objection. The modest, naive young man whom he had taught to read had become his unfathomable guide. brightly lit; I had the impression that above it trains of some kind were running, since the floor. pleasure or ease. But they learned from each other, and came through shame and fear into passion. "You're in such a hurry. You still know nothing." the fire with the grey cat, while Gift went in and out at her work, offering him food several. He nodded. "Left myself halfway," he said. He looked up; the Patterner was coming towards them, wide awake now. with the dead are counterfeits of magic, glass to the diamond, brass to the gold. They are fraud. TARRY'S MALICE had left his nerves raw, and the thought of the party weighed on him till he lost his appetite. He thought hopefully for a while that he was sick and could miss the party. But the day came, and he was there. Not so evidently, so eminently, so flamboyantly there as his father, but present, smiling, dancing. All his childhood friends were there too, half of them married by now to the other half, it seemed, but there was still plenty of flirting going on, and several pretty girls were always near him. He drank a good deal of Gadge Brewer's excellent beer, and found he could endure the music if he was dancing to it and talking and laughing while he danced. So he danced with all the pretty girls in turn, and then again with whichever one turned up again, which all of them did. In about 650, the sisters Elehal and Yahan of Roke, Medra the Finder, and other people of the Hand founded a school on Roke as a center where they might gather and share knowledge, clarify the disciplines, and exert ethical control over the practices of wizardry. With the Hand as its agent on other islands, the school's reputation and influence grew rapidly. The mage Teriel of Havnor, perceiving the school as a threat to the uncontrolled individual power of the mages, came with a great fleet to destroy it. He was destroyed, and his fleet scattered. Roke, itself the center of the Old Powers in all Earthsea, the profoundest manifestations of those. woman near him. He craved an enemy: an opponent worth destroying. Of late, entering always deeper into the mysteries of a certain lore-book brought back from the Isle of Way by one of Losen's raiders, Gelluk had become indifferent to most of the arts he had learned or had discovered for himself. The book convinced him that all of them were only shadows or hints of a greater mastery. As one true element controlled all substances, one true knowledge contained all others. Approaching ever closer to that mastery, he understood that the crafts of wizards were as crude and false as Losen's title and rule. When he was one with the true element, he would be the one true king. Alone among men he would speak the words of making and unmaking. He would have dragons for his dogs. made one gesture of her hand, downward to the earth. depression -- the carriage had already left -- and received another surprise. I was not at the. to fear him. I do not need to fear his power. I do not need his power. I must see him, to be sure, insubstantial, but she thought he was not there, and when he stepped into the slanting sunlight. "Why would you come to the Marsh?" she asked. She had a right to ask, having taken him in, yet she. The man named Ged went to him and took his hands, which were half stretched out, pleading. Under Roke's steadily growing influence, wizardry was shaped into a coherent body of knowledge, its use increasingly controlled by moral and political purpose. Wizards trained at the school went to other islands of

the Archipelago to work against warlords, pirates, and feuding nobles, preventing raids and forays, imposing penalties and settlements, enforcing boundaries, and protecting individuals, farms, towns, cities, and shipping, until social order was re-established. In the early years they were sent to enforce peace; increasingly they were called on to maintain it. While the throne in Havnor remained empty, for over two hundred years Roke School served effectively as the central government of the Archipelago..dominant will-the will of a mage strong enough to hold even strong wizards in his service. There.Because this kind of fictional fact, like maps of imaginary realms, is of real interest to some."To Roke?" She stared. "To Roke, Di? Then you really do have the gift --you could be a sorcerer?" .did not stir. The aisles of the trees were endlessly different and all the same. He did not know. "A group of young men," said the Herbal, breathless, as he came to them. "Thorion's army. Coming here. To take the girl. To send her away." He stood and drew breath. "The Doorkeeper was speaking with them when I left. I think -".She backed away from him, terrified.. "It's the first time I ever saw one. . . So that's what a cigarette looks like. How can you.Windkey led them. His thin, keen old face looked strained and weary, but he greeted the four mages

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