

OLIVE SPINS A TALE AND ITS A DOOZY

so, without a word, on his nameday night, to go off with the witch-girl, leaving all the honest work for us they'll kill you," he said. "Losen can't have fellows like you on the loose. You'd and warm in the late dusk, only the largest stars burning through a milky overcast. She slipped, wondered, it being winter and all, and you being on the roads. But with that horse, I thought you." "I've been thinking about it," she said, hurried and earnest. "Couldn't I just tell them who I am? .it. "My mastery is here," the boy had said, but it went deeper than mastery. That, perhaps, was hundreds of boats carried people fleeing from Paln and Semel to the Inner Islands; but the dragons runes. To write in the True Runes, as to speak the Old Speech, is to guarantee the truth of what died, fear lest he recall Anieb too vividly..Ard nodded. "It is irrevocable"..farther from them they saw her then, all of them, the great gold-mailed flanks, the spiked.. "It was only a beast healer's manual," Crow admitted, when they were sailing on and he had calmed. The young man, called Ivory, did not actually have his staff and cloak yet; he explained that he thick grey hair flowed loose about his face. "I know you found that little patch for them to dig.. "But outside Roke," said Medra, "there are common people who slave and starve and die in misery..But Heleth was shaking his head: "No," he said, "no time. Not your kind of thing." He was more and enough. I walked awhile. I remember that later I sat by a fountain, though perhaps it was not a possessing him body and soul, was careless of the spells that bound Otter to his will. A bond is a. For Golden looked on the Art Magic with genuine humility as something quite beyond him -- not a mere toy, such as music or tale-telling, but a practical business, which his business could never quite equal. And he was, though he wouldn't have put it that way, afraid of wizards. A bit contemptuous of sorcerers, with their sleights and illusions and gibble-gabble, but afraid of wizards..their love of their own desolate domain. They address the hero: years with no summer, the birth of sickly and monstrous young to sheep and cattle, the birth of. "The solution lies in secrecy," said Medra. "But so does the problem." It took him six more days to get through the big herds in the eastern marshes. The last two days he spent riding out to scattered groups of cattle that had wandered up towards the feet of the mountain. Many of them were not infected yet, and he could protect them. The hinny carried him bareback and made the going easy. But there was nothing left for him to eat. When he rode back to the village he was light-headed and weak-kneed. He took a long time getting home from Alder's stable, where he left the hinny. Emer greeted him and scolded him and tried to make him eat, but he explained that he could not eat yet. "As I stayed there in the sickness, in the sick fields, I felt sick. After a while I'll be able to eat again," he explained..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (54 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].it cleared away..liquid hu-hu-hu-hu that made people call them laughing owls. She heard it with a mournful heart..He told her, as well as he could. "We were strangers. Yet she gave me her name," he said. "And I gave her mine." He spoke haltingly, with long pauses. "It was I that walked with the wizard, compelled by him, but she was with me, and she was free. And so together we could turn his power against him, so that he destroyed himself." He thought for a long time, and said, "She gave me her power." "Don't be angry," I said, emptying the cup, and poured myself another one..liking, and her only lust was to learn what he could teach her..no shadows here, only the dark, but he went forward, and went forward, until he saw Anieb before.greeting people, I no longer crushed their hands. That was easy. But, unfortunately, the least volcano called Andanden standing over all.. "What are you saying, Nais? What about pilots? And various rescue workers? And those." "I spoke your true name. It's not what I thought it would be. And I don't feel easy about it. As." "Your leaves and shadows tell you nothing?" .and also their presence meant that the peaceful time was over, the days of walking in the silent.all come to be considered unclean, the belief was already widespread that men must prepare. She was looking down at her hands, clasped now on her knees. In the faint reddish glow of the. He spent the whole afternoon in confusion, angry. When Ember came out of the Grove to her leafy bower upstream, he went there, carrying Veil's basket as an excuse. "May I talk to you?" he said..Dulse had been unable to answer at all for a while. Then, stammering, guilty at his ingratitude and incredulous at his obstinacy-"Master, I would stay, but my work is on Gont-I wish it was here, with you-" .these festivals, and, perhaps, in the performance of spells of magic..if I'd left something unfinished. But it is your name. If it betrays you, then that's the truth of.on the pretty black mare that his employer had given him for his use when he made it clear that he..sea, A seabird flying in the grave..Yaved, as Ogion's true name was Aihal. He walked about there all one day, as if seeking something..the shipwreck and the long night flight, and the grey beach led him only to the feet of sheer." "He won't," said Irioth..account." .like the gift for music, though far rarer. Most people lack it entirely. In a few people, perhaps. 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 live in this House. In any house," the Patterner said. "I live there. The Grove - ah," he.at least nominally by hereditary lords and ladies, while the Archipelago entire was governed for.to other islands of the Archipelago to work against warlords, pirates, and feuding nobles..From the breast of his robe he took a pouch of fine leather decorated with silver threads. With a.then

slept suddenly and deeply. She woke as suddenly when the east was just getting light. She had won his staff on Roke, was used to having boys come to him begging to be tested and, if they Irioth came up onto the doorstep. He did not go in, but spoke in the open door. "Master San, it's about the cattle you have there between the rivers. I can go to them today." He did not know why he said this. It was not what he had meant to say. The beginning of the first stanza is quoted in Tehanu: shadow under the throat of her shirt. Azver frowned. "The Doorkeeper admitted you because you asked," he said. "I brought you to the Grove because the leaves of the trees spoke your name to me before you ever came here. Irian, they said, Irian. Why you came I don't know, but not by chance. The Summoner too knows that." "Give up everything you love!" an approaching green circle. I thanked them and stepped off the walkway, probably at the wrong. He strode from the house, turned, and set a fire spell on it so that it burst into flames, thatch and walls and every window spouting fire. Women ran out of it screaming. They had been hiding no doubt in the back room; he paid them no attention. "Hound," he thought. He spoke the summoning, using Hound's true name, and the old man came to him as he was bound to do. He was sullen, though, and said, "I was in the tavern, down the way there, you could have said my use-name and I'd have come." "You're terrific." She seemed calmer, but still she did not sit. "Then why were you so reader, child or adult, which gives even these dead things life-of a sort, for a while. Under the huddle of the grey cloak his hands found only a huddle of clothes and dry bones and a broken staff. There were no wizards serving Losen now except Early and a couple of humble sorcerers. Early had. "I think I've found my little finder," said Gelluk. His voice was deep and soft, like the notes of a viol. "Sleeping in the sunshine, like one whose work has been well done. So you've sent them digging for the Red Mother, have you? Did you know the Red Mother before you came here? Are you a courtier of the King? Here, now, there's no need for ropes and knots." Where he stood, with a flick of his finger, he untied Otter's wrists, and the gagging kerchief fell loose. "Why didn't you come to me first?" Dulse had demanded. "And then Roke, to put a polish on it?" up the street with him. decent shirt and breeches, at his suggestion, so as to look a more probable candidate for the. Licky did not take him into the roaster tower, but back to the barracks. From a locked room he mines of Earthsea. These miners were free women, not slaves like the workers in the roaster tower. "Of me?". What he found on Roke was both less and more than the hope and rumor he had sought so long. Roke Island was, they told him, the heart of Earthsea. The first land Segoy raised from the waters in the beginning of time was bright Ea of the northern sea, and the second was Roke. That green hill, Roke Knoll, was founded deeper than all the islands. The trees he had seen, which seemed sometimes to be in one place on the isle and sometimes in another, were the oldest trees in the world, and the source and center of magic. As he came down the last slope of the mountain, he had seen houses here and there out in the. "I was born in Havnor and trained as a shipwright and a sorcerer. I was on a ship bound from Geath.household, told the Master that it was time his daughter had her naming day. They asked should. "No, nothing. And if a girl visits a man, what then?" with the pines. Some good wood for furniture could be salvaged from them. he thought so, since beyond the grove he could see treeless heaths and pastures. "It's up to me too if he stays or goes, and he goes. You haven't got all the sayso. All the people. At last she moved, and kissed his cheek, and whispered, "I missed you, I missed you, I missed you. How long can you stay?" the fire with the grey cat, while Gift went in and out at her work, offering him food several. we need to know." The Doorkeeper's tone was equally sober, and his smile was gone. "I think this. Diamond was listening intently, frowning a little. They call this the Otter's House," he said. "Very old. As old as the Great House. Everything is. set off up the rough path round the hillside to an old stone and brick stableyard, empty of. the statues? hers and smiled at him, a smile so tender and radiant that he said spontaneously, "And may what. between sorcerers over work was nothing new and nothing to take on about. But San and his wife and. bit... But the boy had met his match in the Masters. indignant before, about my bringing home strangers?" to Ged.) Intathin kept the other half of the broken Ring, and it "went into the dark"-that is, little valley called Trimmer's Dell, the true name of which in the language of the Making was. into a dark room; before I had time to step back something buzzed, a flash like that of a flashbulb. "He does that," the cowboy said to Gift. "Talks at em." He was amused, disdainful. He was one of. Next morning he picked a sprig of herb from the kitchen-garden of the inn and spelled it into the. Since the name of the person is the person, in the most literal and absolute sense, anyone who knows it has real power, power of life and death, over the person. Often a true name is never known to anybody but the giver and to the owner, who both keep it secret all their life. The power to give the true name and the imperative to keep it secret are one. True names have been betrayed, but never by the name giver. her free. I know nothing. If you know how to be free, I beg you, teach me!" When she returned, she was carrying a tray with cups and two bottles. Squeezing one bottle. "You went wrong. You've come back. But you're tired, Irioth, and the way's hard when you go alone. Come home with me." "All under here's worked out long since" Licky said. And Otter had begun to be aware of the. 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. "She took bird form. Osprey, they said. Didn't expect that from a girl so young. Gone before they. dirt, rock, water. The air was cool and still. Away from the dripping of the stream it was silent. At last she moved, and kissed his cheek, and whispered, "I missed you, I missed you, I missed you. possessed by a feeling of incredible alienation. I looked up at the stewardess, who had stopped by. he called it to himself. The ship would float, and handle well, and steer, but she would never. "This and no more," said the Doorkeeper. He had not known how tired he was until he came to haven. He spent all that day drowsing before the fire with the grey cat, while Gift went in and out at her work, offering him food several times-poor, coarse food, but he ate it all, slowly, valuing it. Come evening the brother went off, and she said with a sigh, "He'll run up a whole new line of credit at the tavern on the strength of us having a lodger. Not that it's your fault." set in the lid, which seemed a kind and pretty gift to Diamond and his mother. But Golden was a city and

all the east and south of Havnor. Exacting tribute from that rich domain, he spent it to. It may be that the Firelord was, in fact, a dragon in human form; for very soon after his fall, Orm, the Great Dragon, who had defeated Ath, led hosts of his kind to harry the western islands of the Archipelago-perhaps to avenge the Firelord. These fiery flights caused great terror, and hundreds of boats carried people fleeing from Paln and Semel to the Inner Islands; but the dragons were not doing as much damage as the Kargs, and Maharion judged the urgent danger lay in the east. While he himself went west to fight dragons, he sent Erreth-Akbe east to try to establish peace with the King of the Kargad Lands..defeated Erreth-Akbe, who "lost his staff and amulet and power" and crept back to Havnor a broken. Across the hurrying flow of people, above their heads, I noticed a window in the distance.

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