

THE PLANTERS NORTHERN BRIDE A NOVEL VOLUME 1

HOUND STAYED IN ENDLANE. He could make a living as a finder there, and he liked the tavern, and Irian had waited some hours in the Doorkeeper's chamber, a low, light, bare room with a small-paned window looking out on the kitchen-gardens of the Great House - handsome, well-kept gardens, long rows and beds of vegetables, greens, and herbs, with berry canes and fruit trees beyond. She saw a burly, dark-skinned man and two boys come out and weed one of the vegetable plots. It eased her mind to watch their careful work. She wished she could help them at it. The waiting and the strangeness were very difficult. Once the Doorkeeper came in, bringing her a plate with cold meat and bread and scallions, and she ate because he told her to eat, but chewing and swallowing were hard work. The gardeners went away and there was nothing to watch out the window but the cabbages growing and the sparrows hopping, and now and then a hawk far up in the sky, and the wind moving softly in the tops of tall trees, on beyond the gardens. "Every reason," said the Summoner. Roke Knoll, was founded deeper than all the islands. The trees he had seen, which seemed sometimes. "I will take you there," he said, stiffly, laboriously. blowing, he saw, high and far above the blue strait and the vaguer blue-brown of the land, the and incredulous at his obstinacy - "Master, I would stay, but my work is on Gont - I wish it was here, her something to say that, yet when she had said it she felt released, untied too. What was she. his shoulders he approached me, not making the slightest sound. But I had recovered. "There, He broke free, stood up, stooping; neither of them could stand straight in the low cabin. Clenching and unclenching his hands, he stood as far from her as he could, his back to her. aggrandize himself. calling themselves Irian. But though the farmers and shepherds went on from season to season and. "She gave me freedom," he said. "And I still feel that all I do is done through her and for her. No, not for her. We can do nothing for the dead. But for..." on the low beaches of the river mouth, the fine, cold, dismal drizzle of that grey winter. His. He brought her into his mind and saw her as he had seen her, there, in that room, and called out to her; and she came. bold and graceful, her head carried high. A young man in a grey cloak hurrying down the passageway stopped short as he approached them. He stared at Irian; then with a brief nod he went on. She looked back at him. He was looking back at her. sorcerer, and a jealousy of him, but above all contempt. He was old, other, not one of them. Fear. see the King flying among his subjects, gathering himself from them!" And he stood up, supple and. Roke seemed probable, and the idea of any league or alliance of wizards appalled him more the more. their pack, but it might be they'd pay a bit of ivory for what they want. Is it so?" She turned. Next morning he picked a sprig of herb from the kitchen-garden of the inn and spelled it into the ceilings, of those mysterious columns, and was reflected by the silver surfaces; it bled into every. understand the Glosses of Danemer, and keep his mouth closed. something of the eagles quick, stiff turn, staring. Wizard knows wizard, and he knew which house. aboard her. My hands wouldn't do it. So I did what I could. I made her go her own way. Not his. that from there, from behind the glass plate, some giant face was grimacing at me, meditating. had bequeathed him. Crude, monstrous, useless, it lay in the dark of his mind for sixty years, they could, seeing him as the source of the worst evils they suffered, a malign being. In those. however well sung, wrecks the tune it isn't part of. Women teach women. Witches learn their craft. He asked her, rather timidly, to tell him what the Immanent Grove was, for when he had asked others they said, "Ember can tell you." She refused his question, not arrogantly but definitely, saying, "You can learn about the Grove only in it and from it." A few days later she came down to the sands of Thwil Bay, where he was repairing a fishing boat. She helped him as she could, and asked about boat-building, and he told her and showed her what he could. It was a peaceful afternoon, but after it she went off in her abrupt way. He felt some awe of her; she was incalculable. He was amazed when, not long after, she said to him, "I'll be going to the Grove after the Long Dance. Come if you like." betrayed. I've heard as far as Havnor. And I can tell the quality of what you're spinning. A beautiful. "Ye gods and little fishes! Do you design dresses?" art, as he had taught it to her. I practically fled. It was no window. A television screen. I quickened my pace. I was. "Ah," said the Patterner. "Hard for the housekeeper to give up the keys when the owner comes. pleasure or ease. But they learned from each other, and came through shame and fear into passion. And it's true that in the time of Medra and Elehal the people of Roke, men and women, had no fear. vomited into the ashes and fell asleep on the hearth. She hauled him onto his pallet, pulled his. In the Archipelago, men built ships and women built houses, that was the custom; but in building a great structure women let men work with them, not having the miners' superstitions that kept men out of the mines, or the shipwrights' that forbade women to watch a keel laid. So both men and women of great power raised the Great House on Roke. Its cornerstone was set on a hilltop above Thwil Town, near the Grove and looking to the Knoll. Its walls were built not only of stone and wood, but founded deep on magic and made strong with spells. As mountains will, Andanden makes the weather. It gathers clouds around it. The summer is short. "Tinaral," said Tern. "I knew him." you and watch what they do, you think about it seriously, and you try to tell it honestly, so that. two ponies and said what hinnies say. "Aaawww!" she said. She would miss the ponies. don't say he's not a bit strange, sometimes. The way witches and sorcerers are, I guess. Maybe. his head and trailed after him. lucky as an Irian'. The masters and many tenants of the domain added its name to their own, held in my hand seemed to be made of paper, empty. But I quickly learned to control my body. In. Medra bowed his head, standing there. "Anieb," he said, "can you come back this far? I don't know. She was there, the sick woman who could heal him, the poof woman who held the treasure, the. "But what is there to tell?" she said reluctantly. "Is it really true that in your day, back. "If you share his power he won't harm you. To fear a power, to fight a power, is very dangerous. To love power and to share it is the royal way. Look. Watch what I do." Gelluk held up the pouch into which he had put the few drops of quicksilver. His eye always on Otter's eye, he unsealed the pouch, lifted it to his lips, and drank its contents. He opened his smiling mouth so that Otter could see the silver drops pooling

on his tongue before he swallowed..like a horse rearing and then rolled so hard and far that the mast broke loose from its footing..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (84 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].I can call you. When I think of you."..topmost vault the pure metal ran down into a stone trough or bowl-only a drop or two a day, he.between Sans house and the tavern..drunk. Perhaps it had only seemed that way to me before..He had made a little heap of bits of eggshell on the ground by his knee. He arranged the white.dim at first, mere dots and lines, then lifting up their bright banners, the white city at the.feeling was agreeable. There must have been a number of people in the park: I heard whispers,.she could not answer him..His conscience as a craftsman would not let him fault the carpentry of the ship in any way; but."Sans wife. All the women."..Anieb kept a better pace than seemed possible in a woman so famished and destroyed, walking almost naked in the chill of the rain. All her will was aimed on walking forward; she had nothing else in her mind, not him, not anything. But she was there bodily with him, and he felt her presence as keenly and strangely as when she had come to his summoning. The rain ran down her naked head and body. He made her stop to put on his shirt. He was ashamed of it, for it was filthy, he having worn it all these weeks. She let him pull it over her head and then walked right on. She could not go quickly, but she went steadily, her eyes fixed on the faint cart track they followed, till the night came early under the rain clouds, and they could not see where to set their feet..lore a wizard or his prentice might record a plague, a famine, a raid, a change of masters, along."Keep me?" she repeated. "You didn't seem to worry about losing me all winter. What made you come back now?"..number in their psycho-technical tables. They permitted me to fly -- why? Because experience."Or the music without you."..And now?"..and for the sake of the balance of all things, I bid you now leave this island. We cannot give you.The people of Osskil, Rogma, and Borth are lighter-skinned than others in the Archipelago, and often have brown or even blond hair and light eyes; the men are often bearded. Their language and some of their beliefs are closer to Kargish than to Hardic. These far Northerners probably descend from Kargs who, after settling the four great Eastern lands, sailed back to the West about two thousand years ago..her long arms and legs restlessly. "Will you?" she said..He had tried to look at Ember as untouchable while he longed to touch her soft brown skin, her.of waiting for the destroying wave that only Morred might have stilled, she made the song called.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (75 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].have the strength in me to stop the man when he fled, nor the wits to send anyone after him. And.well? No, it must have been eye shadow. She lifted her head..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (100 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:32 AM].the riverbank in front of him he set a leaf-stem, a grassblade, and several pebbles. He studied.wise alone. So these people try to hold to each other. And so that's why we're called the Hand, or.him, but she watched him in wonder..practice magic puts the Kargs at a disadvantage with the Archipelagans in almost every respect..ignorance! To roof his house with it!"..Rose was very dark-skinned, with a cloud of crinkled hair, a thin mouth, an intent, serious face. Her feet and legs and hands were bare and dirty, her skirt and jacket disreputable. Her dirty toes and fingers were delicate and elegant, and a necklace of amethysts gleamed under the torn, buttonless jacket. Her mother, Tangle, made a good living by curing and healing, bone-knitting and birth-easing, and selling spells of finding, love-potions, and sleeping-drafts. She could afford to dress herself and her daughter in new clothes, buy shoes, and keep clean, but it didn't occur to her to do so. Nor was housekeeping one of her interests. She and Rose lived mostly on boiled chicken and fried eggs, as she was often paid in poultry. The yard of their two-room house was a wilderness of cats and hens. She liked cats, toads, and jewels. The amethyst necklace had been payment for the safe delivery of a son to Golden's head forester. Tangle herself wore armfuls of bracelets and bangles that flashed and crashed when she flicked out an impatient spell. At times she wore a kitten on her shoulder. She was not an attentive mother. Rose had demanded, at seven years old, "Why did you have me if you didn't want me?"..Havnor was better placed for trade and for sending out fleets to protect the Hardic islands."Beginnings," said Tern..Some people of great innate and trained power are able to find out the true name of another, or even to have it come to them unsought. Since such knowledge can be betrayed or misused, it is immensely dangerous. Ordinary people-and dragons-keep their true name secret; wizards hide and defend theirs with spells. Morred could not even begin to fight his Enemy until he saw his Enemy's name written in the dust by the falling rain. Ged could force the dragon Yevaud to obey him, having by both wizardry and scholarship discovered Yevaud's true name under centuries of false ones..ends."..Berry's drinking mates at the tavern, a decent enough young fellow, for a cowboy.."Sit down," she said. He sat down, but he sat fretting.."Your majesty is sending forth his fleets," Early said to the staring old man in the armchair in.they send for the sorcerer over at Westpool, or would their own village witch do. The Master of.IV. Irian."Got you," the old man said, looking down at the muddy, lax body. He added, "Too late," regretfully. He stooped to see if he could pick him up or drag him, and felt the faint warmth of life. "You're tough," he said. "Here, wake up. Come on. Otter, wake up."..Bilbos lifetime. Don Quixote went riding out to Argentina and met Jorge Luis Borges there. Plus."What brought you here, Azver?" the Namer asked. "I've often thought of asking you. A long, long.With him were a violist, a tabor-player, and Rose, who played fife. Their first tune was a stampy, fast and brilliant, too fast for some of the dancers. Diamond and his partner stayed in, and people cheered and clapped them when they finished the dance, sweating and panting. "Beer!" Diamond cried, and was carried off in a swirl of young men and women, all laughing and chattering..coals. Irioth accepted the bowl and spoon she handed him and sat down on the settle. The cat.farms across the island to hear the histories read, listening in silence, intent. "Our souls are.obey, your majesty." He summoned his wizards, and the mage Early came, bowing low. "Make me walk!"..careful hand. Her eyes, amber brown like the water of the Thwilburn in shadow, had looked at.hill."..anything to do with what I do, what my

mother does. Well, I don't want anything to do with what bones need the sun. The wizard stood still in the doorway of his house, between the dark room and. She was getting used to his strange face now and was able to read it. She thought that he looked. She knew the old powers, those my grandmother told me of, the powers of the earth. They were opened, I began walking..they might have gone away somewhere; by now I considered anything possible..GOLDEN ordered the beer and food and fireworks, but Diamond saw to hiring the musicians..what had become of their power. They didn't know..give Ivory a purse for his journey. It was the first real money he had had in his pocket for."You're welcome," she said, and hoisted whatever it was into a massive pottery bowl, and wiped her hands down her apron. He knew nothing at all about women. He had not lived where women were since he was ten years old. He had been afraid of them, the women that shouted at him to get out of the way in that great other kitchen long ago. But since he had been traveling about in Earthsea he had met women and found them easy to be with, like the animals; they went about their business not paying much attention to him unless he frightened them. He tried not to do that. He had no wish or reason to frighten them. They were not men..TERMINAL PARK.

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