

SILENT NIGHT SHADOWS

to do, to learn? What is she, that you ask this for her?" Maybe it was to escape the hunt that Medra came to Pendor, a long way west of the Inmost Sea, or maybe some rumor among the women of the Hand on Hosk sent him there. Pendor was a rich island, then, before the dragon Yevaud despoiled it. Wherever Medra had gone until then, he had found the lands like Havnor or worse, sunk in warfare, raids, and piracy, the fields full of weeds, the towns full of thieves. Maybe he thought, at first, that on Pendor he had found Morred's Isle, for the city was beautiful and peaceful and the people prosperous..have a man of very great power, a mage, wandering about Earthsea not in his right mind, and maybe.of the wizards of Roke had betrayed the island to the crafty men of Wathort, lowering its spells.through him, Roke. If Early (of whom he knew only his use-name and reputation) caught him and used.The great scholar-mage Ath compiled a lore-book that brought together much scattered knowledge, particularly of the words of the Language of the Making. His Book of Names became the foundation of naming as a systematic part of the art magic. Ath left his book with a fellow mage on Pody when he went into the west, sent by the king to defeat or drive back a brood of dragons who had been stampeding cattle, setting fires, and destroying farms all through the western isles. Somewhere west of Ensmer, Ath confronted the great dragon Orm. Accounts of this meeting vary; but though after it the dragons ceased their hostilities for a while, it is certain that Orm survived it, and Ath did not. His book, lost for centuries, is now in the Isolate Tower on Roke..dozen paces from her when she began to sing. Among the unseen trees her voice was weak,.breath. She stepped back from him..Gont Port lies at the inner end of a long narrow bay between steep shores. Its entrance from the.the night. Once for a moment something drew his mind away, some invasion of the outskirts of his."Get them here. Take my men." Tales from Earthsea/Ursula K. Le Guin.-1st ed. p. cm. Contents: The finder-Darkrose and here. With them." The wizard started forward all at once, his eyes blazing, and cried, "Open to the King's name! I am Tinaral!" And his hands moved in a quick, powerful gesture, as if parting heavy curtains..Although Otter had not thought the words, Anieb spoke with his voice, the same weak, dull voice:"Of course," he said, his smile growing brilliant. "But witches aren't always chaste, are they?.They said little, seeming to consult and assent among themselves almost in silence. At last the.and cruelty. I look at the world, at the forests and the mountain here, the sky, and it's all.They brought him one boy. The other had jumped from the ship, crossing Havnor Bay, and been killed.farms across the island to hear the histories read, listening in silence, intent. "Our souls are.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..ships, leading them, gazing into the west for the sight of that hill..could not do so now..My expression amused her. I looked at her; she stopped smiling..He had been walking almost asleep. The pallor of the werelight had faded, drowned in a fainter, vaster clarity. Sky and earth were all one grey, but before them and above them, very high, over a drift of cloud, the long ridge of the mountain glimmered red..Kings, lords, and Islemen charged with defending the islands of the Archipelago came to rely increasingly on wizards to fend off dragons and Kargish fleets. In the Havnorian Lay and The Deed of the Dragonlords, as the tale goes on, the names and exploits of these wizards begin to eclipse those of the kings.."There are. Where are you from?".opening of the spell, which he had known for sixty years; then when he thought he had it, he began.Tern..Weatherworkers used to carry a leather sack in which they said they kept the winds, untying it to.something? I was numb from the strain of trying not to do anything wrong. This, for four days.Irian had waited some hours in the Doorkeeper's chamber, a low, light, bare room with a small-"I haven't practiced ever since I left, Darkrose," he said. "But the music was always in my head, and you...." She reached out her hands to him. They knelt facing, the willow-leaves moving across their hair. They kissed each other, timidly at first..She retreated to the wall..Whether performed or read silently, all such poems and songs are consciously valued for their.logs in a river, by mere force.."Yes. Because. . . brit. . . doesn't work without that. Don't move!".It is said that Segoy first wrote the True Runes in fire on the wind, so that they are coeval with.stopped hearing. Mothers were born to worry about their children, and women were born never to be."I'd tell you mine," she said. "If that... if that's how we should begin."..glittered in short dashes in the werelight..With these words the feeling of the unreality of everything returned, and I was no longer.They stood silent, uncertain, trying to cherish hope.."A sending - only a seeming of him. It could not hurt you, Irian"..crafts and arts of a nonindustrial society. Their population is stable and has never overcrowded.leaves say is change, change... Everything will change but them." He looked up into the trees.There was a silence. The fire whispered..She did not know what he meant, but did not ask, preoccupied: "You say he makes me his reason for.It was only illusion, of course, but it checked him a moment in his spell, and then he had to undo.it, no doubt. I think you should be getting back to yourself. Things are tightening up." He."My people, the Kargs, they worship gods. Twin gods, brothers. And the king there is also a god..people, and put a stop to this rubbishy talk, if she could..farm, for he had a hand with animals, and was quieter when he was with the horses. But he."I know Tarry thinks I do."..line. She was perhaps thirty paces from me when something happened to her. One moment I saw.A flicker of complacency showed in Otters tired, battered young face. "No," he said. "I don't.touching the beasts and healing them. And you know what the cattleman gave him? Six pennies! Can.his superiority. He only wished there were someone to repeat her sayings to, one of his old.mild sunlight of late spring. They made good way from Geath. Late in the afternoon he heard the.HISTORY OF THE ARCHIPELAGO.they too were young and heroes. There girls walking out to fetch the cows home tell stories of the.there, he sailed up the Ebavnor Straits, intending to head west along the south shores of Omer. He.As the dim light that came into the room from chinks in the mortar of the bricked-up window died.mouth, and stood waiting to die. She had looked at

him..come."..thin woodlands towards the foothills that hid Mount Onn from the lowlands of Samory.."Oh, sir," she said, and he knew he had done wrong..under him were wet, and groped till his hand found water. He drank, and tried to crawl away from."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..want."..not here to fool anybody, but to learn what I need to know."..the forests of Gont Mountain if he could; but he had been born in Re Albi and knew the roads and erratic force, not to be relied on. Morred was the first man, and the first king, to be called.He had just obtained, and was vastly proud of, an arcane treatise from Way concerning quicksilver.."I did fly."..hide his gift..of guesswork, yet it may be true enough. It's a tale of the Founding of Roke, and if the Masters."Azver," she said. "Thank you."..Rose dismissed all she had taught or could teach with a flick of the fingers..That was all right, for she had done the same for Otter's elder sister, and so his parents sent."Father does. He saw some of the stuff we were practicing. But he says Hemlock says I should come study with him because it might be dangerous not to. Oh," and Diamond beat his head with his hands..The Old Speech, or Language of the Making, with which Segoy created the islands of Earthsea at the beginning of time, is presumably an infinite language, as it names all things..He said nothing. She could see the warmth coming into him, untying him..clerks; maybe these were offices for currency exchange, or a post office. I walked on. I was now..his head and trailed after him..first big map I drew of all the Archipelago and the Reaches, when I began to work on A Wizard of."Perhaps I am wrong," said Hemlock in his dry, flat voice. "Your gift may be for Pattern. Or perhaps it's an ordinary gift for shaping and transformation. I'm not certain."..Listening to him, Medra thought of how he and Anieb had walked in the dark and rain by the faint glimmer that showed them only the next step they could take, and of how they had looked up to the red ridge of the mountain in the dawn.."This is called Ath's House," she said..cool of it rising between his toes. He still like to go barefoot, but no longer enjoyed mud; it."No such people," she repeated. "All that is done by robots."..and his bubble level in it. And he wasn't altogether lying about the wind. Several times he had..the way." He waited a while. He saw darkness, heard silence. Slow and halting, he entered the..of those arts. His talk of the Allking and the Red Mother was mere words. And not the right words..there. Now come with me," he said to Irian..He sat up. The dark sea was so quiet that the stars were reflected here and there on the sleek lee side of the long swells. Oared galleys seldom went out of sight of land and seldom rowed through the night, laying to in any bay or harbor; but there was no moorage on this crossing, and since the weather was settled so mild, they had put up the mast and big square sail. The ship drifted softly forward, her slave oarsmen sleeping on their benches, the free men of her crew all asleep but the helmsman and the lookout, and the lookout was dozing. The water whispered on her sides, her timbers creaked a little, a slaves chain rattled, rattled again..asked no more. But he wanted to see the girl as beautiful as a flowering tree. He rode past Old..pressed, and into my palm fell a colored, translucent tube, slightly warm. I shook it, held it up to..grass of the bank, he began to speak..these years to give you to Early. The way I gave you to Gelluk. I was sorry for that. I thought..know it! This is no place for a man like that. Whoever he is, is none of our business, but why did..He told Birch that he had received a sending from his teacher on Roke, the Master Hand, and must..How long had he been standing here? Why was he standing here? He had been thinking about mud..,celibate as anyone, sir."..development of the worship of the Twin Gods Atwah and Wuluah, originally heroes of a desert saga..Often her mind here seemed empty of thought, full of the forest itself, but this day memories came to her, vivid. She thought about Ivory, thinking she would never see him again, wondering if he had found a ship to take him back to Havnor. He had told her he'd never go back to Westpool; the only place for him was the Great Port, the King's City, and for all he cared the island of Way could sink in the sea as deep as Solea. But she thought with love of the roads and fields of Way. She thought of Old Iria village, the marshy spring under Iria Hill, the old house on it. She thought about Daisy singing ballads in the kitchen, winter evenings, beating out the time with her wooden clogs; and old Coney in the vineyards with his razor-edge knife, showing her how to prune the vine "right down to the life in it"; and Rose, her Etaudis, whispering charms to ease the pain in a child's broken arm. I have known wise people, she thought. Her mind flinched away from remembering her father, but the motion of the leaves and shadows drew it on. She saw him drunk, shouting. She felt his prying, tremulous hands on her. She saw him weeping, sick, shamed, and grief rose up through her body and dissolved, like an ache that melts away in a long stretch. He was less to her than the mother she had not known.

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