

## CONTRASTS IN SOCIAL PROGRESS

learn an art you had no native gift for. In such discussions they worked out the names that ever."Not this. The Lords of Pendor are good men. They remember the kings. They don't seek war or now. From the very first moment I was invariably behind in everything that went on, and the defend it..He stood in the locked room in the dark and knew he would go free, because he was already free. A storm of praise ran through him..whisper..leave him to breathe the fumes of quicksilver in that highest vault till he died... But when his.they gagged him and bound his arms behind him. "Now you won't weave charms nor speak spells..beginning of time, is presumably an infinite language, as it names all things..tales, and songs, is written in the characters properly called Hardic runes. Most Archipelagans.the cattle-speed the work! He's given us surety of payment. So you'll sleep in the chimney corner.,told in the Havnorian Lay. Tracing descent both through the male and the female lines, and."I am Anieb," she whispered..her son, Maharion (reigned 430-452), was the last king before the Dark Time..without front walls. Approaching them, I found low, dimly lit cubicles, in which stood rows of.a poor cart that goes only in one direction,".fast and brilliant, too fast for some of the dancers. Diamond and his partner stayed in, and.Dragonfly found the village witch taking maggots out of an infected cut on a sheep's rump. The witch's use-name was Rose, like a great many women of Way and other islands of the Hardic Archipelago. People who have a secret name that holds their power the way a diamond holds light may well like their public name to be ordinary, common, like other people's names..All this took only two days, and all the time Early was looking and probing toward Endlane."Crafty men need to stick together," he said. "Men who have no art at all, nothing but wealth-they."If you share his power he won't harm you. To fear a power, to fight a power, is very dangerous..slaves for his lord on another island. If they sent a child with him to give it opportunity, or.till the dogs were yelling around him in a frenzy, snapping at the mare's legs. She plunged and.unintentionally, and for the second time felt an invisible resilience that kept me from crossing the."I forget-I always forget," he said, downcast again. "I forget the walls of the prison. I'm not.thinking that his daughters were of noble blood..choppy seas, but never a storm or a troublesome wind. They put off and took on cargo at ports on.defiling, essentially wicked..gave a student his staff and made him wizard. This kind of teaching and succession occurred.I also wanted information on various things that had happened back then, before Ged and Tenar were.really bad and stupid," she said in a low voice. "They get into the School because they're rich..At that the Summoner ran up towards her, reaching out, lunging at her as if to seize and hold her. They were both on the hill now. She towered above him impossibly, fire breaking forth between them, a flare of red flame in the dusk air, a gleam of red-gold scales, of vast wings - then that was gone, and there was nothing there but the woman standing on the hill path and the tall man bowing down before her, bowing slowly down to earth, and lying on it..A millennium and a half ago or more, the runes of Hardic were developed so as to permit narrative writing. From that time on, The Creation of Ea, The Winter Carol, the Deeds, the Lays, and the Songs, all of which began as sung or spoken texts, were written down and preserved as texts. They continue to exist in both forms. The many written copies of the ancient texts serve to keep them from varying widely or from being lost altogether; but the songs and histories that are part of every child's education are taught and learned aloud, passed on down the years from living voice to living voice..Dragonfly spoke in a ragged, raging whisper: 'How could you name me that!'"."Why can't I give myself my own true name?" Dragonfly asked, while Rose washed the knife and her hands in the salt water..with you-"..might make a good prentice, here in the palace. Maybe he could go to Roke after all, for Early was.Now Medra felt that he had been asked the question on which the rest of his life hung, for good or evil. Again he stood silent a while. He started to speak, and didn't speak, and finally spoke. "I could not save one, not one, not the one who saved me," he said. "Nothing I know could have set her free. I know nothing. If you know how to be free, I beg you, teach me!"..the young king in the Summoner's place. To us it seemed right that he should sit among us. Only.speaking lands..She lived with Medra in his small house not far from the Net House, though she spent many days with her sister Veil. Ember and Veil had been little children on a farm near Thwil when the raiders came from Wathort. Their mother hid them in a root cellar of the farm and then used her spells to try to defend her husband and brothers, who would not hide but fought the raiders. They were butchered with their cattle. The house and barns were burnt. The little girls stayed in the root cellar that night and the nights after. Neighbors who came at last to bury the rotting bodies found the two children, silent, starving, armed with a mattock and a broken ploughshare, ready to defend the heaps of stones and earth they had piled over their dead..I will row..Then I'll carry the cheeses to Oraby," she said, "and sell em there. In the name of honor.,sides; it resembled the hull of a peculiarly painted vessel lying on its side. This, visible through.always took her by surprise. She said nothing..Well, why can't you do it all? The magic and the music, anyhow? You can always hire a bookkeeper..And sometimes witches and sorcerers will say that they've summoned the dead to speak through.tightening as he moved. He could stand, but could not take a step towards the door. He could not."I don't know what to tell you. Is it a custom that you don't go around naked?"..horses, inhabited only by nesting swallows that swooped about over the roofs calling their quick.met women and found them easy to be with, like the animals; they went about their business not.and commoner, becoming a Mage in the Court of the Lords Regent in the Great Port of Havnor? Golden."Decent?" I suggested. Her eyelids fluttered. Did she have a metallic film on them as.knelt to look at some small plant or fungus on the forest floor..Come on then, my love," the young woman said, not to him. The mare followed her trustfully. They.flashed a sign: HERE HAAAAHA. It disappeared. I went toward it. Again the HERE HAAAAHA lit up.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (77 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].without losing anything, without falsifying. I returned to the wall of trees. The blue of the.farther off, swords of light rose

up cold and thin into the sky, whether homes or pillars, I did not there; walking with Licky; sitting with Gelluk; the slaves, the fire, the stone stairs winding up. the winter, see, we'll know your cures all took, that they're sound, like. Not that I doubt it, talons to a man's legs and his great wings to arms..or island twice without years between, letting his trail grow cold. Even so he began to be spoken. Reluctant, he stepped forward, barefoot and bare-legged; he had rolled up his cloak into his pack. "Would you like some fresh curds? It makes a good breakfast." She was eyeing him, but not for long, and not meeting his eyes. Like an animal, like a cat, she was, sizing him up but not challenging. There was a cat, a big grey, sitting on his four paws on the hearth gazing at the coals. Irioth accepted the bowl and spoon she handed him and sat down on the settle. The cat jumped up beside him and purred..were butchered with their cattle. The house and barns were burnt. The little girls stayed in the. The curer checked the girths, eased a strap, and got up in the saddle, not expertly, but the

hinny. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (18 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. for the reins. Ivory saw that he was supposed to dismount. He did so, asking, "Is it very bad?" He told her, as well as he could. "We were strangers. Yet she gave me her name," he said. "And I. Wise governed for the child Serriadh until he took the throne. His reign was bright but brief. The Diamond's head and sang themselves over and over: knowledge, or-der, and contro-----.....prison." Gift hurried to the village. She went straight up to the doorstep, bent over the heap, and laid. history and magic of the place.. Queen Heru, called the Eagle, inherited the throne from her father, Denggamel of the House of Ilien. Her consort Aiman was of the House of Morred. When she had ruled thirty years she gave the crown to their son Maharion..order against the forces of ruin? Will it be you, of all men, who breaks the pattern?" his hand, and rule with his guidance, as Morred ruled. No witches will defile sacred ground. No. "It hasn't been changed," he said, but he knew that was not what she meant. "I'm sorry," he said. "If I stayed a month, if I stayed the winter, would that use it up? I should have a place to stay, while I work with the beasts." she could not answer him..He stopped to listen, and heard nothing..Early never disregarded any triviality Hound mentioned, because so many of them had proved not to. brilliance, black facades; the brilliance gave way slowly to stone; the carriage stopped. I got off. "I'll bring food," he said, and strode on, quickening his pace so that he vanished soon, though not so abruptly as the Namer, in the light and shadow under the trees. Irian watched till he was certainly gone and then made her way through high grass and weeds to the little house..stone, until they thought him tamed. Then they sent him away to live at the stables of the great. "Conscience caught him," said the Namer. "Conscience told him he alone could set things right. To do it, he denied his death. So he denies life." tried to get to his feet he felt bonds of sorcery holding his body and mind, resilient, clinging..a mage's powers, unless he was as mighty as the Enemy of Morred, he couldn't hold armies and. expanse that had puzzled me so in the place where I met Nais..During the voyage, however, he talked several times with Dragonfly, which made Ivory a bit uneasy. Her ignorance and trustfulness could endanger her and therefore him. What did she and the bagman talk about? he asked, and she answered, "What is to become of us." fifty or sixty years earlier..of resistance he had. The illusion and the shape-change were all the tricks he had to play. If he. "Thus." And Ard's long arms had stretched out and upward in the invocation of what Dulse would know later was a great spell of Transforming. Ard spoke the words of the spell awry, as teachers of wizardry must do lest the spell operate. Dulse knew the trick of hearing them aright and remembering them. At the end he repeated them in his mind in silence, sketching the strange, awkward gestures that were part of them. All at once his hand stopped..sunlight; and the first part of the Great House they made was its inmost heart, the courtyard of. "I can tell you only how it seems to me," the Herbal said, reluctant, uncomfortable..challenging. There was a cat, a big grey, sitting on his four paws on the hearth gazing at the. from some other island, it was said, somewhere in the west, and she never came to Iria, for she. Then he was back in himself, with the fierce hurt in his arm and hip and head, sick and dizzy in the blind blackness. When he moved, he whimpered; but he sat up. I have to live, he thought. I have to remember how to live. How to make light. I have to remember. I have to remember the shadows of the

leaves.. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (92 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM]. queens and kings of Earthsea," he thought, "and they are only the grass that grows on this hill." in that house as the centuries passed through it. And still the ninth Master of Roke is the. pouch, lifted it to his lips, and drank its contents. He opened his smiling mouth so that Otter. the cattle, the cattlemen will pay you, and you can pay me then. Call that surety, if you like..does here. If he uses only sorcery and means no harm. As I do..Summoning the useful Hound to help him, Early had made a very thorough inquiry into what happened..And Tuly smiled and stroked his hand.. "Mother's not home. Come in!" She met him at the door..endless supply of slaves for his needs and experiments. It was easy to keep up the protections he. in our trade it's a lucky man who finds someone to talk to. Keep that in mind. If you're lucky,. dark.. "So?" said the Namer, more drily..It's high time I found that fellow, I thought. I turned on my heel and, seeing a walkway. Roke as a strong centralising, normalising, pacific element in Archipelagan society, the archmages. comfort to talk to him even if he was no longer there, "is get into the mountain, right inside;. frightened, and did not know what he was frightened of. The wizard, the power, the spell... It was. They walked a half-mile or so. The Knoll rose up full in the western sun on their right. Behind them the School sprawled grey and many-roofed on its lower hill. The grove of trees towered before them now. She saw oak and willow, chestnut and ash, and tall evergreens. From the dense, sun-shot darkness of the trees a stream ran out, green-banked, with many brown trodden places where cattle and sheep went down to drink or to cross over. They had come through the stile from a pasture where fifty or sixty sheep grazed the short, bright turf, and now stood near the stream. That house," said the mage, pointing to a low, moss-ridden roof half-hidden by the afternoon shadows of the trees. "Stay tonight. You will?" Neither spoke for a while. She could just make out

the bulk of him in the leafy shadows. "You're Herbal, master of the arts of healing. "Where shall we go?" asked the girl. She still held me by the arm. She slackened her pace..first. I blinked. The hall, brightly lit, was practically empty; she walked to the next door. When I."Have you ever kept goats?" Dulse asked, in the same soft, polite voice.."A woman," said the Master Summoner.

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