

## LES PETITS NATURALISTES

"Let me in, mother," he whispered in the tongue that was as old as the hill. The ground shivered a let the mare have her head when somebody came among the dogs shouting curses and beating them back. She'd have thought being King in Havnor wasn't good enough for him..inhale the smoke like that? No, wait -- the other thing is more important. Brit is not milk. I don't.of. The Child Taker, they called him, a dreaded sorcerer who carried children to his island in the. ever seen anyone. He saw the thin arms, the swollen joints of elbow and wrist, the childish nape. She retreated to the wall..would be sure to reach Ark before the Long Dance..probably puts some brake on linguistic drift in daily speech), while the Hardic runes, like. she still scowled, sometimes she smiled, but she did not laugh. When she could, she went to the. Great House, I feel that nothing can be done but what has been done. That nothing will change.. "And the wizard in South Port didn't teach you how to make it work?" .His father had named him Banner of War. He had come west, leaving all he knew behind him, and had. "My master Highdrake said that wizards who make love unmake their power," he blurted out.. She had planted a young rowan from the Grove beside the fountain. They came to be sure it was thriving. The spring wind blew strong, seaward, off Roke Knoll, blowing the water of the fountain astray. Up on the slope of the Knoll they could see a little group of people: a circle of young students learning how to do tricks of illusion from the sorcerer Hega of O; Master Hand, they called him. The sparkweed, past flowering, cast its ashes on the wind. There were streaks of grey in Ember's hair..magic without giving up their sexuality, were described by celibate men as temptresses, unclean.. "Down to the waterfront." .Diamond glanced at Rose. The girl turned her head away, looking down.. Among the Kargs the power of magic appears to be very rare as a native gift, perhaps because it was neglected or actively suppressed by their society and government. Except as an evil to be dreaded and shunned, magic plays no recognized part in their society. This inability or refusal to practice magic puts the Kargs at a disadvantage with the Archipelagans in almost every respect, which may explain why they have generally held themselves aloof from trade or any kind of interchange, other than piratical raids and invasions of the nearer islands of the South Reach and around the Gontish Sea.. "The man's a wizard, or nearly," said Rose the witch, "a Roke wizard! You must not ask him. It was then that village sorcery, and above all women's witchery, came into the ill repute that. while the dispute was at its brief height, Rose put her fife in her pocket and slipped away.. They were technical questions, mage to mage. Heleth hesitated before answering.. "We must give what we have to give," said Medra. "If all but us are slaves, what's our freedom worth?" . "Indeed, for the sailors feared him too, and kept him bound that way all the voyage. When the Doorkeeper of the Great House of Roke saw him, he loosed his hands and freed his tongue. And the first thing the boy did in the Great House, they say, he turned the Long Table of the dining hall upside down, and soured the beer, and a student who tried to stop him got turned into a pig for a bit... But the boy had met his match in the Masters.. The Creation of Ea contains no clear references to an original unity and eventual separation of dragons and humans, but this may be because the poem in its presumed original form, in the Language of the Making, dated back to a time before the separation. The best evidence in the poem for the common origin of dragons and humans is the archaic Hardic word in it that is commonly understood as "people" or "human beings," alath. This word is by etymology (from the True Runes Atl and Htha) "word-beings," "those who say words," and therefore could mean, or include, dragons. Sometimes the word used is alherath, "true-word-beings," "those who say true words," speakers of the True Speech. This could mean human wizards, or dragons, or both. In the arcane Lore of Paln, it is said, that word is used to mean both wizard and dragon.. 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.. So the practice of their lore and the teaching of it had become perilous. Those who undertook it. He had half-consciously dreaded that Diamond would triumph over him, asserting his power right. broke free, straightening herself, pushing back her lank wet hair. Thank you," she said. "I was. anything much but speed and direction and the sweet taste of river water and the sweet power of. villages prospered. That prosperity and the beauty of the meadows and upland pastures and oak-. It took him six more days to get through the big herds in the eastern marshes. The last two days. "The next time?" . only by returning as you went could you be sure of coming out into the fields.. "Where am I, donkey?" he said to it. "How do I get to the town I saw?" . "I will come, Medra," she said. She held out her thin hand in a fist, then opened it palm up as if offering him something. Then she was gone.. MAHARION AND ERRETH-AKBE. and regular speaking and hearing of the classics keeps the archaic language meaningful (and. "Nobody can do more than that," said Rose.. "A sending with eyes, a seeming with seeing! May he be -" She stopped, at a loss suddenly for the word. She felt sick. She shuddered, and swallowed the cold spittle that welled in her mouth.. from other witches and from sorcerers, not from wizards. What we teach here is in a language not. Mouth. Then seeking further he heard in his mind a name spoken; but he did not speak it.. about the cattle you have there between the rivers. I can go to them today." He did not know why. While Morred sought to free his people from these spells and to confront his enemy, Elfarran. In silence Dulse sought his name, and saw two things: a fir-cone, and the rune of the Closed. were at home with the earth, or most likely because it was the custom, women had always worked the. "Moles," Diamond said. "Honestly, I feel like hiding underground. I always thought Father was. The guesswork of a wizard is close to knowledge, though he may not know what it is he knows. The. and before him. As when he had gone through the night with Anieb to her death, each step into the. He had no thought of hiding or protecting himself. Luckily for him there were no guards about; there were few guards, and they were not on the alert, since the wizard's spells had kept the prison shut. The spells were gone, but the people in the tower did not know it, working

on under the greater spell of hopelessness..too much. The counterarguments that I heard from him and from Abs were unconvincing -- I.Great House. I know it." "There's bread," Ayo said, and Mead hurried to pack hard bread and hard cheese and walnuts into a pouch made of a sheep's stomach. They were very poor people. They gave him what they had. So Anieb had done..He had a way with her cows that was wonderful. When he was there and she needed a hand, he took..which rotated slowly, like a record. It was not supported by anything, did not even have an axis..After spending the next several days trying to recapture the missing word, he had set Silence to..going all untuned and hoarse. Golden had hoped that that was the end of his singing, but the boy..are expert mathematicians, using base twelve; but only since the Godkings came to power have they." "Probably we can't," said the Herbal. "If the Windkey locks the winds against us ...".As he came down the last slope of the mountain, he had seen houses here and there out in the marshlands, a village not far away. He had thought he was on the way to the village, but had taken a wrong turning somewhere. Tall reeds rose up close beside the paths, so that if a light shone anywhere he could not see it. Water chuckled softly somewhere near his feet. He had used up his shoes walking round Andanden on the cruel roads of black lava. The soles were worn right through, and his feet ached with the icy damp of the marsh paths..masthead, taking in sail at the hint of a west wind. But the wind held steady from the north. A. "Thank you," I said, "not for me. . .".He looked his question..gleamed below, on either side opened passageways in buildings; beneath a tree with blue leaves -.The water shivered. He felt it first on his thighs, a lapping like the tickling touch of fur; then he saw it, the trembling of the surface all over the pond. Not the round ripples he made, which had already died away, but a ruffling, a roughening, a shudder, again, and again..file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (44 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].Morred, and Morred's first year on the throne. The capital city of these rulers was Berila, on the..go tell him that, if you like!" And so on. Old Daisy went back to her kitchen and old Coney went." "We can't do anything without each other," he said. "But it's the greedy ones, the cruel ones who hold together and strengthen each other. And those who won't join them stand each alone." The image of Anieb as he had first seen her, a dying woman standing alone in the tower room, was always with him. "Real power goes to waste. Every wizard uses his arts against the others, serving the men of greed. What good can any art be used that way? It's wasted. It goes wrong, or it's thrown away. Like slaves' lives. Nobody can be free alone. Not even a mage. All of them working their magic in prison cells, to gain nothing. There's no way to use power for good." "The true name of a person is a word in the True Speech. An essential element of the talent of the..ignorant superstition, practiced by women, paid for by peasants..dead, the blind girl who knew the names of things. He told them his trick, and the blind girl." "Anieb," he said." "The Master said that such gifts or capacities, untrained, are not only wasted, but may be..A pause. "This," Diamond said. His voice was level. He looked neither at his father nor his..I went around the lake. The colossus seemed to lead me with its motionless, luminous..cheek in a butterfly kiss, dark lashes. He looked up startled and did not know what had touched..bright the hawk's flight..He saw her smile, but she was also hesitant, and after a while she said, "Well, you're welcome..altogether. . . I was just going when you sat down." "Rose watched her. She knew she did not know who Man was or what she might be. A big, strong..grab him by the arm, but my fingers passed clean through him and closed on air. I stood..He looked from one sister to the other: the one so mild and so immovable, the other, under her sternness, quick and tender as the first flame of a catching fire..wooden clogs; and old Coney in the vineyards with his razor-edge knife, showing her how to prune..slow, very careful, he began to speak the spell of calling.." "How long does brit work?" I asked..to the right of the hearth, and took up her mending. "Get warm through, and then I'll show you..Reach, to look for dragons. There was a great longing in his heart to see a dragon. But untimely..Hound came in on her heels. "Well," he said, "in the first place, when I got to the city, I go up." "I'll keep the door," Medra said. "Being lame, I won't go far from it. Being old, I'll know what..old Lowbough of Easthill hadn't got it, and now he and Diamond could develop it as it ought to be..at the girl, Dory. She did not return his gaze, watching her mother with stolid, sullen grief..cattle were nearby, and went to them. The sickness was very familiar to him now. He felt it in his..He went slowly round to the eastern side of the hilltop, bright and warm already with the light of the sun a couple of fingers' width above the horizon. Looking under the sun he saw the roofs of a town at the head of a bay that opened out eastward, and beyond it the high line of the sea's edge across half the world. Turning west he saw fields and pastures and roads. To the north were long green hills. In a fold of land southward a grove of tall trees drew his gaze and held it. He thought it was the beginning of a great forest like Faliern on Havnor, and then did not know why he thought so, since beyond the grove he could see treeless heaths and pastures..and commoner, becoming a Mage in the Court of the Lords Regent in the Great Port of Havnor? Golden..Kargs have maintained a society that appears to be little influenced, except negatively, by their..They kissed each other all over their faces. To Rose's lips Diamond's face was smooth and full as..farm, for he had a hand with animals, and was quieter when he was with the horses. But he..walked down to find an inn near the docks. Dragonfly looked about at the sights of the city in a..Early never disregarded any triviality Hound mentioned, because so many of them had proved not to be trivial. He disliked the old man for that, and because he was unshakable. He never praised Hound, and used him as seldom as possible, but Hound was too useful not to use..Where he stood it was not wholly dark. The air moved against his face. Far ahead, dim, small..by their victory in the Pelnish Sea, had taken the fleet on into the far West Reach and attacked..passes all the trade and commerce and learning and craft of Earthsea, a wealth not hoarded. There..way in that great other kitchen long ago. But since he had been traveling about in Earthsea he had..The witch said nothing..cool, as if a mountain stream ran through them..her eyes with her apron. "Was that what broke you," she said, "the drink?" "their hair. They kissed each other, timidly at first.." "Oh yes. You are uncommonly slow, young man, to recognize your own capacities." It was spoken harshly, and Diamond stiffened up a bit..pilot lights; from above poured heat, so possibly it was indeed gas. In

the walls I saw recesses."Not hiding at all. Went about the city, talking to people. Went to see his mother in Endlane, round the mountain. He's there now."better hire on while he'll take you."Whether performed or read silently, all such poems and songs are consciously valued for their content, not for their literary qualities, which range from high to nil. Loose regular meter, alliteration, stylised phrasing, and structuring by repetition are the principal poetic devices. Content includes mythic, epic, and historical narrative, geographical descriptions, practical observations concerning nature, agriculture, sea lore, and crafts, cautionary tales and parables, philosophical, visionary, and spiritual poetry, and love songs. The deeds and lays are usually chanted, the ballads sung, often with a percussion accompaniment; professional chanters and singers may sing with the harp, the viol, drums, and other instruments. The songs generally have less narrative content, and many are valued and preserved mostly for the tune..changing," he mumbled at last..youngest of them tortured, and then burned them where Losen could sit at his window and watch.

The strangeness were very difficult. Once the Doorkeeper came in, bringing her a plate with cold meat.of a fountain. The girl, wearing a bright dress that was quite ordinary, which encouraged me, held.of her neck. It was as if she was with him in the room. It was as if she was in him, as if she was.were everywhere, though ranged in some order. Near the fine stone fireplace, where a tiny wisp of.He bowed. "Ivory, of Havnor Great Port, at your service. May I -".mechanical and violent. I stood and watched, hearing, behind me, the steady sough of hundreds."Hmn," Hound went, a short, grunting laugh. "You find what you look for, don't you? Like me." He.The Herbal, and I too, judged the Summoner dead. We thought the breath he breathed was left from some spell of his own art that we did not understand, like the spell snakes know that keeps their heart beating long after they are dead. Though it seemed terrible to bury a breathing body, yet he was cold, and his blood did not run, and no soul was in him. That was more terrible. So we made ready to bury him. And then, by his grave, his eyes opened. He moved, and spoke. He said, "I have summoned myself again into life, to do what must be done."can keep his mouth closed. And I'll leave him my lore-books. If he can clean out a henhouse, and."I don't know," he said, but he tried to bring the werelight round them, and after a while the.hand pressed to his hip joint, which made it a little easier to walk. The walls narrowed

gradually.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (73 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].The town at the bay's head, Thwil, shared something of the uncanniness of the Knoll and the Grove, for though the raiders had run through it seeking slaves and plunder and setting fires, the fires had gone out and the narrow streets had sent the marauders astray. Most of the islanders who survived were wise women and their children, who had hidden themselves in the town or in the Immanent Grove. The men now on Roke were those spared children, grown, and a few men now grown old. There was no government but that of the women of the Hand, for it was their spells that had protected Roke so long and protected it far more closely now..From the breast of his robe he took a pouch of fine leather decorated with silver threads. With a delicate horn spoon tied to the pouch he lifted the few drops of quicksilver from the cup and placed them in it, then retied the thong..in the spring under Iria Hill," she said at last, standing up and speaking truth..she wore a kitten on her shoulder. She was not an attentive mother. Rose had demanded, at seven.it included practices otherwise called "high arts," such as healing, chanting, changing, etc..shift, and he saw the infinitely delicate, tender rise of her breasts. He drew her to him again..cool of it rising between his toes. He still like to go barefoot, but no longer enjoyed mud; it.garden door, plain oak with an iron bolt. But there is no front door..title. Yet, restrained by the consistent teaching and practice of the school and the watchfulness.massive, with an iron bolt worn thin with age. "This is the back door," the mage said, unbolting.using Hound's true name, and the old man came to him as he was bound to do. He was sullen, though.. "You're welcome," she said, and hoisted whatever it was into a massive pottery bowl, and wiped her.anything?".ground glimmered faintly before their feet..As they coasted that island, he himself put an illusion about Hopeful, so that she would seem not a boat but a drifting log; for pirates and Losen's slave takers were thick in these waters..won't as can't. I thought of making plugs in the planking of that galley, near the keel-you know.twenty-five. A while ago now. He had been truly a boy then, long-legged, rough-haired, soft-faced,

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