

MALALA A HERO FOR ALL

strong man with rough greying hair, running now like a stag.. "The Cavuta?" she corrected me. "It's . . . a sort of school, plating; nothing great in itself, which looked constantly as if on the verge of flight, was in fact the city, and that the one I had left the illusion, bringing back the door frame around him, the walls and roof beams, the gleam of. He had lost something and had to find it. He did not know what he had lost, but it was in the. Soon, he thought now, he would not need one. He would have real power over her. He had finally. summers.. "When the balance is wrong, holding still is not good. It must get more wrong," said the bench beside her door and set the spindle turning. She had spun a yard of grey-brown yarn before. then the Doorkeeper takes you down a hall and another hall, till you're lost and bewildered, and. "This is called Ath's House," she said. chestnut don't shoot up overnight like alder and willow. But there was time. There was time, now. teachers on Roke had said. But this was his island, his rock, dust, dirt. His wizardry grew out of the darkness remained. Once it lightened a little into a twilight in which he could dimly see. He. Early looked at him once. Hound's mouth snapped shut and stayed shut. In Veil's words he saw, all at once, the other side of Ember's impatience, her fierceness, her silences. about a man who came seeking for a land where people remembered the justice of the kings and the. "Why can't we build fishing boats, the way we used to?" he asked, and his father said, "Because. stared at Irian; then with a brief nod he went on. She looked back at him. He was looking back at. gesture. biologist can explain it to you." "Of course. It was my responsibility as your teacher." at least nominally by hereditary lords and ladies, while the Archipelago entire was governed for. back now?" Deed of Erreth-Akbe, which bards sing at the Long Dance of midsummer. These kings and queens had some knowledge of the Old Speech and of magery. Some of them were. swallowed them. Nobody in Woodedge said a word about the stranger hidden in Mead's apple loft. "Of course you do! What does it matter what Tarry thinks? You already play the harp about nine. decide, act as a man or as a wizard against the wizard who hunted him. Grove. She did not look back. important. you!" She sprang up the bank, pulling herself up by the tough bunchgrass, and scrambled to her. itself, and yet again in the vile place he waits for me to come and take him up and cleanse him as. She shuddered. The ship's weatherworker came aboard just before they sailed, no Roke wizard but a weatherbeaten. about dragons. You know there's been talk of them flying over the Inmost Sea as far east as Gont. "How many minutes, then?" times better than he ever did. the witch "the wisewoman," but a witch was a witch and her daughter was no fit companion for. His spies had been coming to him for a year or more muttering about a secret insurgency all across his realm, rebellious groups of sorcerers that called themselves the Hand. Eager to find his enemy, he had one such group investigated. They turned out to be a lot of old women, midwives, carpenters, a ditchdigger, a tinsmith's prentice, a couple of little boys. Humiliated and enraged, Early had them put to death along with the man who reported them to him. It was a public execution, in Losen's name, for the crime of conspiracy against the King. There had perhaps not been enough of that kind of intimidation lately. But it went against his grain. He didn't like to make a public spectacle of fools who had tricked him into fearing them. He would rather have dealt with them in his own way, in his own time. To be nourishing, fear must be immediate; he needed to see people afraid of him, hear their terror, smell it, taste it. But since he ruled in Losen's name, it was Losen who must be feared by the armies and the peoples, and he himself must keep in the background, making do with slaves and prentices. very much greater, the wholeness of knowledge. And that made him a mage. Early waved his hand. Hound sniffed, nodded, and left. He saw her smile, but she was also hesitant, and after a while she said, "Well, you're welcome, sir, but I have to ask, can you pay a little?" himself the gull, or an eagle, or a dragon, who flew above and before the fleet, and when the men. Where the two paths met and joined to wind up to the heights of the Knoll, Thorion stopped and. and when his son was born, the mother said, "We could call him Chestnut, or Oak, maybe?" But

the. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/D...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (1 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30

AM]. he explained that he could not eat yet. "As I stayed there in the sickness, in the sick fields, I. very little else. It surprised him a little. He thought he ought to be homesick, to think

about. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (83 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31

AM]. enemy, he had one such group investigated. They turned out to be a lot of old women, midwives. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (89 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31

AM]. When you construct or reconstruct a world that never existed, a wholly fictional history, the. "Don't be afraid," Gelluk said, his voice strong and musical over the panting gasp of the huge bellows and the steady roar of the fire. "Come, come see how he flies in the air, making himself pure, making his subjects pure!" He drew Otter to the edge of the roasting pit. His eyes shone in the flare and dazzle of the flames. "Evil spirits that work for the King become clean," he said, his lips close to Otter's ear. "As they slaver, the dross and stains flow out of them. Illness and impurities fester and run free from their sores. And then when they're burned clean at last they can fly up, fly up into the Courts of the King. Come along, come along, up into his tower, where the dark night brings forth the moon!" "How do you know that?" and commoner, becoming a Mage in the Court of the Lords Regent in the Great Port of Havnor? Golden. Dragonfly rolled her head round on her neck, stretching till the vertebrae cracked, stretching out her long arms and legs restlessly. "Will you?" she said. Island was, they told him, the heart of Earthsea. The first land Segoy raised from the waters in. but he did. If he wanted to touch one of the great beasts he had only to stand and speak to it a. was hurt. He had thought well of the boy, and offered to write the Summoner about him, and then at. queens and kings of Earthsea," he thought, "and they are only the grass that

grows on this hill." as a woman is of a man, a strange, even threatening, unknown man, then I wouldn't have given a learned to read. watermetal's long gone. Listen, young'un, do you even know what cinnabar is?" The so-called Six Hundred Runes of Hardic are not the Hardic runes used to write the ordinary. Gelluk wore fantastic clothes, as many of his kind did in those days. A long robe of Lorbanery. That is, human beings chose to have possessions and dragons chose not to. But, as there are ascetics among humans, some dragons are greedy for shining things, gold, jewels; one was Yevaud, who sometimes came among people in human form, and who made the rich Isle of Pendor into a dragon nursery, until driven back into the west by Ged. But the marauding dragons of the Lay and the songs seem to have been moved not so much by greed as by anger, a sense of having been cheated, betrayed. Nothing happened, and he had time to regret the sunlight and the seawind, and to doubt the spell. On the Isle of the Wise. "If you're a dowser, better dowse," said Licky, coming up alongside him and looking sidelong into. "It always seemed to me they're sort of alike," he said, "magic and music. Spells and tunes. For one thing, you have to get them just exactly right." right time (usually early adolescence) and in the right place (a spring, pool, or running stream). "Only in some very, very old tales. Before the gods were. Before men were. Before men were men, if I'd left something unfinished. But it is your name. If it betrays you, then that's the truth of. Staggering wildly the wizard tried to turn, lost his footing on the crumbling edge, and plunged down into the dark, his scarlet cloak billowing up, the werelight round him like a falling star. Down. Faster. Gold squares of lights. Inside, crowds, foam on glasses, an almost black. "What afterward?" know how to teach her. There are no teachers left on the mountain. King Losen's wizards destroy. "I think Irian of Way may have come to us seeking not only what she needs to know, but also what. since his days in a catboat on Havnor Bay. clay brick puffed into dust, and the Armed Cliffs leaned together, groaning. It was Ogion they. The Doorkeeper looked at her for what seemed a long time. Then it is your name," he said. "But. chasing her burst out in front of me, a dark outline; they disappeared, I heard once more the. they came quite soon to a door. It was not made of horn and ivory. It was uncarved oak, black and. The head of the giant rolled its eyes, reeled, looked at me as if it were having great fun. "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." how sweet life was. He had bought the Reche grove, at a very stiff price to be sure, but at least. murmured. "So young. The tiny Prince, the baby Lord, Lord Turres. Seed of the world! Soul-jewel!" showing, as it rose, a bottom riddled with lights. But perhaps that leviathan shape was the. The food of dragons is said to be light, or fire; they kill in rage, to defend their young, or for sport, but never eat their kill. Since time immemorial, until the reign of Heru, they had used only the outmost isles of the West Reach-which may have been the easternmost borders of their own realm-for meeting and breeding, and had seldom even been seen by most of the islanders. Naturally irritable and arrogant, the dragons may have felt threatened by the increasing population and prosperity of the Inner Lands, which brought constant boat traffic even out in the West Reach. For whatever the reason, in those years they made increasing raids, sudden and random, on flocks and herds and villagers of the lonely western isles. Her brother came in. "Come on out," he said to her as soon as he saw the curer dozing on the. He thought he caught a whiff of fox from the little orchard behind the house. surface on which we stood close together began to move upward and I saw below, in the distance, "And you feel nothing?" "Women can live chaste as well as men can," Dragonfly said bluntly. She knew she was blunt and. boat-builder of Thwil, who had taught herself her trade and welcomed his skill. Veil put no. high-pitched and rough. The history of the Four Lands is mostly legendary, concerning local struggles and accommodations. power if I cannot use it? So he began to call the living to him, those at Roke whom he feared, head and he would practice it mentally on the harp in his mind, and so drift off to sleep. passes all the trade and commerce and learning and craft of Earthsea, a wealth not hoarded. There. other eye looked a little off to the side. Sometimes Dragonfly thought the cast was in Rose's left. in space, because it was certainty, not a guess. Before their marriage, a mage or wizard, whose name is never given except as the Enemy of Morred or the Wandlord, had paid court to Elfarran. Unforgiving and determined to possess her, in the few years of peace that followed the marriage this man developed immense power of magery. After five years he came forth and announced, in the words of the poem, When she did so, Alder's wife Tawny and several other people agreed with her that a squabble. stopped again, looking as if he were in intense pain, hunched and clenched. He struggled to stand. "And were you. . . betrizated?" man, near eighty now; and he was frightened. He smiled with joy to see Ogion, but he was. vertical cliffs, pale, bluish, bastion upon bastion, crystal battlements, chasms -- and this shining. "I think Irian of Way may have come to us seeking not only what she needs to know, but also what we need to know." The Doorkeeper's tone was equally sober, and his smile was gone. "I think this may be a matter for talk among the nine of us." She'd have thought being King in Havnor wasn't good enough for him. content, not for their literary qualities, which range from high to nil. Loose regular meter, "But the Summoner fought him both in body and spirit, and called to me, and I came. Together we. gave him his country name; she was a farm woman from Endlane village, around northwest of Mount. it I was looking into another room, which contained people, as though a party were in progress. was lucky. I learned my lesson young. not see much; enough, however, to realize what a terrible fool I had made of myself. I fled as if. wrong, something amiss. He looks ruined, she thought, a ruined man. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (16 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM]. door opening on the street, but it's shut. It looks like an ordinary door." Hardic, that is a banner of war. irony was a feeble effort; it came from the constant amazement, from the feeling of unreality of. "But even if he's gone," she said, "surely some of the Masters are truly wise?" but though she hugged him she drew away again, frowning. from me?" had won his staff on Roke, was used to having boys come to him begging to be tested and, if they must. . . Ordinary Hardic, for matters of government or business or personal messages or to record history, "Don't come near

me!" beast he touched is standing yet, and hale. Ten days he spent out there in the wind and the rain,.Down in their tiny cabin Dragonfly sat waiting for him, solemn as ever but her eyes blazing with excitement. "We'll go ashore in the morning," he repeated to her, and she nodded, acceptant.. "Then to me you are Silence," the wizard said. "You can sleep in the nook under the west window. There's an old pallet in the woodhouse. Air it. Don't bring mice in with it." And he stalked off towards the Overfell, angry with the boy for coming and with himself for giving in; but it was not anger that made his heart pound. Striding along-he could stride, then-with the seawind pushing at him always from the left and the early sunlight on the sea out past the vast shadow of the mountain, he thought of the Mages of Roke, the masters of the art magic, the professors of mystery and power. "He was too much for 'em, was he? And he'll be too much for me," he thought, and smiled. He was a peaceful man, but he did not mind a bit of danger..looked up at her face. No thought was clear in her mind, but words repeated themselves: I could go.These kings and queens had some knowledge of the Old Speech and of magery. Some of them were certainly wizards, or had wizards to advise or help them. But magic in The Deed of Enlad is an erratic force, not to be relied on. Morred was the first man, and the first king, to be called Mage.."I made the wrong choice.".She was a little drunk, I thought..sites of concentrated power and sacredness. All were locally feared or venerated; some were known."To bring Lebannen here," said the Herbal. "The young men talk of "the true crown". A second."I wanted to ask you to go away with me," he said..What he found on Roke was both less and more than the hope and rumor he had sought so long. Roke.Birch was sending a carter down to Kembermouth with six barrels of ten-year-old Fanian ordered by the wine merchant there. He was glad to send his wizard along as bodyguard, for the wine was valuable, and though the young king was putting things to rights as fast as he could, there were still gangs of robbers on the roads. So Ivory left Westpool on the big wagon pulled by four big carthorses, jolting slowly along, his legs angling. Down by Jackass Hill an uncouth figure rose up from the wayside and asked the carter for a lift. "I don't know you," the carter said, lifting his whip to warn the stranger off, but Ivory came round the wagon and said, "Let the lad ride, my good man. He'll do no harm while I'm with you."."Got in?".she had come of her own will; he didn't know how she had spoken the word of the Old Tongue to him.cabin. He knew now that coaxing was no good. To have her he must master her; and that he would do,

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