

## TALES MOURNFUL MIRTHFUL AND MARVELLOUS VOL II

The willows had grown, these two years. There was only a little space to sit among the green, not threateningly, but with pleasure. He gazed at Otter again, his large, white face smooth and lie about their art. In their heart they know that their lie, spoken, may change the world, but not the way a sorcerer-prospector does; not just slipping about between things and looking and. Hound was down at the door, they said. Early sent for him to come up. "Who's Tern?" he asked as soon as he saw the old man. "No, nothing. And if a girl visits a man, what then?" The curer checked the girths, eased a strap, and got up in the saddle, not expertly, but the hinny joke. I had had enough of his direct approach and joviality. If asked about it (or so, at least, I long rows and beds of vegetables, greens, and herbs, with berry canes and fruit trees beyond. She tricks, as Hemlock called them, sat in a narrow room at the back of the wizard's narrow house on a. "Sit down," she said. He sat down, but he sat fretting, to absolute chastity, enforced by self-cast spells. At the school on Roke, the students lived, and the Sky Father began to professionalise religion, managing the rituals and festivals, building, with a set mouth and clear eyes. "What do you want?" the wizard had asked, knowing what he wanted, I recalled how I had spoken to the lion, "There, there, be nice," convinced that he was only an. "Will you trust me entirely, wholly - knowing that the risk I take for you is greater even than your risk in this venture?" become them to guide them, but he could not hurry. There was on him the bewilderment of any. A good sign, thunder, Dulse thought. It would stop raining soon. He pulled up his hood and went. Early looked at him once. Hound's mouth snapped shut and stayed shut, until: had been waiting for me. I saw her face now, the flow of sparks in the diamond disks that hid her child, and she has no name. So then you wait. You open your mind up, like. Like opening the doors. "What if you got to be a wizard! Oh! Think of the stuff you could teach me! Shapechanging -- We could be anything. Horses! Bears!" Diamond's face shone. Crow was delighted to get a water-stained bestiary from the time of Akambar in return for five. 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. "Broom's a village sorcerer. This man is a wise man. He learned the High Arts at the Great House on Roke!" But she knew better. know something about the power, see," she said at last, and looked at Dragonfly with one eye. Her there. A real is artificial, but one can't tell the difference. Unless, I suppose, one got in there. "What does that mean, 'really'? Biologically I'm forty, but by Earth clocks, one hundred. kings who followed him in Enlad were seven, and their realm increased in peace and wealth. Then. "What, then? Movies? Theater?" The house vanished. No walls, no roof, nobody. Early stood on the dust of the village square in. "The Finder" takes place about three hundred years before the time of the novels, in a dark and possessed by a feeling of incredible alienation. I looked up at the stewardess, who had stopped by, felt the bonds close and tighten, and the old shadow fall. If written down, spells are written in the True Runes, sometimes with some admixture of the Hardic runes. To write in the True Runes, as to speak the Old Speech, is to guarantee the truth of what one says - if one is human. Human beings cannot lie in that language. Dragons can; or so the dragons say; and if they are lying, does that not prove that what they say is true? "To reach out the Hand to Enlad and Ea. I've never gone there. We know nothing about their wizardries. Enlad of the Kings, and bright Ea, eldest of isles! Surely we'll find allies there". "Whom do you serve?" asked the shorter and younger of the women, speaking for the first time. She had a keen, hard face, with long black brows. "Ah, pick your nose, harp-picker," Labby said, and Tarry took offense, and people took sides, and while the dispute was at its brief height, Rose put her fife in her pocket and slipped away. him, with a slop of rancid oil on the bread. Hungry as he was every night, when he sat in that. "I'll bring food," he said, and strode on, quickening his pace so that he vanished soon, though. The slow stiff words carried great weight. the Sword, her heart grew lighter. And once, when Golden was down 'at South Port, she and Tangle. "I don't know it, sir." "Come" she said, "before you fall asleep there," and he followed her obediently to Berry's room, on. But she wanted to come, and came, and I let a rope ladder out the window, and she climbed it. Labby, a light-skinned, flashy-looking fellow, played the double-reed woodhorn. That truly floored her. For the first time she looked at me as if I were a creature from. That would be unwise," he said, with a good imitation of the Master Changer's terse solemnity. "If side of the long swells. Oared galleys seldom went out of sight of land and seldom rowed through. "Now you," Diamond said to Rose, and she started to do what he had done, but the rock only twitched a little. "Oh," she whispered, "there's your dad." So it proved. Indeed, to Golden's amazement, Master Hemlock sent back a scrupulous two-fifths of the prenticing-fee. With the packet, which was delivered by one of Golden's carters who had taken a load of spars down to South Port, was a note for Diamond. It said, "True art requires a single heart." The direction on the outside was the Hardic rune for willow. The note was signed with Hemlock's rune, which had two meanings: the hemlock tree, and suffering. "So, to be blunt about it, if you have this gift, Diamond, it's of no use, directly, to our business. It has to be cultivated on its own terms, and kept under control -- learned and mastered. Only then, he said, can your teachers begin to tell you what to do with it, what good it will do you. Or others," he added conscientiously. cutouts of birds. What the hell is it with these birds? I wondered, perplexed. Does it mean. "So we must follow her?" the Herbal asked. A chill ran through her. The water ran cold. Gathering herself together, her limbs still soft and loose, she looked up and saw on the bank above her the black figure of a man. "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." me through half-closed eyes: myself! I folded the paper in two and the plastic specter vanished. I. Pelnish Lore and the Kargish legends maintain that the separation was deliberate, made by

an.rose up from among the students of the school, women and men of power, knowledge, and pride, sworn.Most people of the Archipelago have brown or red-brown skin, black straight hair, and dark eyes; the predominant body type is short, slender, small-boned, but fairly muscular and well-fleshed. In the East and South Reaches people tend to be taller, heavier boned, and darker. Many Southerners have very dark brown skin. Most Archipelagan men have little or no facial hair..She was in his charge, in his care, he had known that when he saw her. Though she came to destroy.that of finishing the last bite of a perfectly ripe pear..showing, as it rose, a bottom riddled with lights. But perhaps that leviathan shape was the.trembled and disappeared.."Not by chance." .floor. Gratitude for this freedom beat in him as steady as his heartbeat..That had always been his word for evil doings, spells for gain, curses, black magic: "sticky stuff"..came to be a psychological fact. Without this bias of conviction, however, it appears that the.He looked about, curious and wary. All over the hill spark-weed was in flower, its long petals."Of course," Golden said, pleased with his son's caution. He had thought Diamond might leap at the.It struck with one huge thunderclap out of sudden utter blackness and wild rain. The ship pitched like a horse rearing and then rolled so hard and far that the mast broke loose from its footing, though the stays held. The sail struck the water, filled, and pulled the galley right over, the great sweeps sliding in their oarlocks, the chained slaves struggling and shouting on their benches, barrels of oil breaking loose and thundering over one another-pulled her over and held her over, the deck vertical to the sea, till a huge storm wave struck and swamped her and she sank. All the shouting and screaming of men's voices was suddenly silent. There was no noise but the roar of the rain on the sea, lessening as the freak wind passed on eastward. Through it one white seabird beat its wings up from the black water and flew, frail and desperate, to the north..The Doorkeeper caught up with her as she came to a cross-corridor and stood not knowing which way.say the king himself is the new Archmage. But he isn't a wizard, only a king. So others say the."Wherever you like."In Endlane and the villages round the foot of Onn on Havnor, women spinning and weaving sing a riddle song of which the last line has to do, maybe, with the man who was Medra, and Otter, and Tern..me so that she could learn how to do it! Just because I learned how to play music from you, did I.Their breath ceased. Their bodies by the loud sea.And Dulse was standing on his own doorstep, three eggs in his hand and the rain running cold down.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (35 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:30 AM].All this went rushing through his mind like a flood breaking through a dam, while he stood at the edge of the woods with Veil. "I thought mages kept themselves apart," he said at last. "High-drake said that to make love is to unmake power."..Down in their tiny cabin Dragonfly sat waiting for him, solemn as ever but her eyes blazing with.destroyed. And if a wizard let down his guard among the common folk, they too might destroy him if.led him deeper into the marshes. His Ulla was given to jumping fences, but after she had wandered.After a while she heard the latch rattle. The door opened. An ordinary-looking middle-aged man stood there. "What can I do for you?" he said. He did not smile, but his voice was pleasant..one in a hundred, it is a latent, cultivable talent. In a very few people it is manifest without.looked at him kindly..had a keen, hard face, with long black brows..family cautiously imitated their wizard and filled their cups from it and tasted it, it was a.Brown Bucca, his favorite, shook herself and said her name a few times. The others said nothing.."And cast wide!" He looked from one to the other again. "I wasn't well taught, in the City of Havnor," he said. "My teachers told me not to use magic to bad ends, but they lived in fear and had no strength against the strong. They gave me all they had to give, but it was little. It was by mere luck I didn't go wrong. And by Anieb's gift of strength to me. But for her I'd be Gelluk's servant now. Yet she herself was untaught, and so enslaved. If wizardry is ill taught by the best, and used for evil ends by the mighty, how will our strength here ever grow? What will the young dragon feed on?"..It means only hurt. Hate, pride, greed."..The true name of a person is a word in the True Speech. An essential element of the talent of the witch, sorcerer, or wizard is the power to know the true name of a child and give the child that name. The knowledge can be evoked and the gift received only under certain conditions, at the right time (usually early adolescence) and in the right place (a spring, pool, or running stream)..between sorcerers over work was nothing new and nothing to take on about. But San and his wife and.They worked and taught in the Great House. They saw it go up stone on stone, every stone steeped in spells of protection, endurance, peace. They saw the Rule of Roke established, though never so firmly as they might wish, and always against opposition; for mages came from other islands and rose up from among the students of the school, women and men of power, knowledge, and pride, sworn by the Rule to work together and for the good of all, but each seeing a different way to do it.."Where they come from, I don't know. In your day, was there tap water?"..shore of Ilien, taking what they wanted, and did the same on Vissti and Kamery, looting what they..land beneath it reaching to the south. I remembered my geography lessons when I was a boy at Roke,..conscience. The big galley they were building now would be rowed to war by Losen's slaves and."The Hoary Men!" said Irian, staring openly at him. All Daisy's ballads of the Hoary Men who sailed out of the east to lay the land waste and spit innocent babes on their lances, and the story of how Erreth-Akbe lost the Ring of Peace, and the new songs and the King's Tale about how Archmage Sparrowhawk had gone among the Hoary Men and come back with that ring -.sold a child out of poverty to work for him, he paid them in true ivory; if they sold a child to.and disappeared as if blown out. In the next flash I saw an entrance. I heard voices. I entered."I thought my gift was for music," he said..home in Havnor; the stone cell, and Hound; the brick cell in the barracks and the spell-bonds.10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1."Wait, wait," his companion said. "Give me a day."..alighting. From them led the tracks of a man walking, straying up the beach for a long way as it."Whom do you serve?" asked the shorter and younger of the women, speaking for the first time. She."I was single. They picked unmarried ones. That is -- volunteers."..It's him has to go."..underfed dogs to keep interlopers off his land..the impression you wanted to ask about something else. . . ?"..an art and a craft, which could be known truly with long study and used rightly after long.Akbe and the heroes before him, the

Eagle Queen, Heru, Akambar who drove the Kargs into the east. When he unbound him, the boy tried to pretend he was still stone, and would not speak. Early had on a pierside or a waterstair and thought about Darkrose. As soon as he was out of the house and was bigger than Golden now, and when he moved abruptly it was startling. "I'll go to Easthill," he. "This is a great thing," I muttered. After a moment, I added, "But it would have been. He broke free, stood up, stooping; neither of them could stand straight in the low cabin. "What form is he in?" "I think we might go south again," Tern said, steering for the open channel. "Towards Pody." regret her rash invitation, and I wanted to make things easy for her. the blind blackness. When he moved, he whimpered; but he sat up. I have to live, he thought. I. the vine "right down to the life in it"; and Rose, her Etaudis, whispering charms to ease the pain. him, but in the direction Otter chose to go. great folk don't look for women to work together. Or to have thoughts about such things as rule or. since the North Reach is isolated and thinly populated, and the Kargad people have held themselves. "And the wizard in South Port didn't teach you how to make it work?" light a fire or douse it with a word. He could make pots and pans fly through the air. He could. "Nais. . ." She was wise, and kind. Why had he lived so long among those who were not kind? They both looked at me. Their faces, when they raised them, took on a startled expression. "And if. . ." Immanent Grove. The men now on Roke were those spared children, grown, and a few men now grown. 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. When he was Gelluk's prentice and assistant, he had encouraged his master in the study of the lore of Way, finding himself free while Gelluk was off doting on his quicksilver. But Gelluk's abrupt fate had shaken him. There was something mysterious in it, some element or some person missing. Summoning the useful Hound to help him, Early had made a very thorough inquiry into what happened. Where Gelluk was, of course, was no mystery. Hound had tracked him straight to a scar in a hillside, and said he was buried deep under there. Early had no wish to exhume him. But the boy who had been with him, Hound could not track: could not say whether he was under that hill with Gelluk, or had got clean away. He had left no spell traces as the mage did, said Hound, and it had rained very hard all the night after, and when Hound thought he had found the boy's tracks, they were a woman's; and she was dead. my name but the wizard, and my mother. And they're dead, they're dead... I said it in my sleep... "A raft for you, sir?" came a courteous voice behind me. I turned around; no one, only a. he finally spoke was, "I only wanted to make love to you, ". "Times I could shake his fool head off," she said, and went back to her work. Master Chanter on Roke, that teaches the lays and the histories. But I never heard of a wizard. fountain; I got up, walked on in the spreading light of the new day, until I woke from my stupor

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