

## THE CLIPPER HOME A ROMANCE NOVELLA

He traveled far in the Archipelago, even out into the East Reach. He never went to the same town or island twice without years between, letting his trail grow cold. Even so he began to be spoken of. The Child Taker, they called him, a dreaded sorcerer who carried children to his island in the icy north and there sucked their blood. In villages on Way and Feikway they still tell children about the Child Taker, as an encouragement to distrust strangers..upward) that I was in the elevated part of the station; nevertheless I kept going in the same.Hound had taken him, had stood and seen his people beaten senseless, had not stopped the beating..prison.".His old master was sitting in the grass near the pond, eating an apple. Bits of eggshell flecked the ground near his legs, which were caked with drying mud. When he looked up and saw Ogion's sending he smiled a wide, sweet smile. But he looked old. He had never looked so old. Ogion had not seen him for over a year, having been busy; he was always busy in Gont Port, doing the business of the lords and people, never a chance to walk in the forests on the mountainside or to come sit with Heleth in the little house at Re Albi and listen and be still. Heleth was an old man, near eighty now; and he was frightened. He smiled with joy to see Ogion, but he was frightened..beneath him. "Let me just open this up," Tern was saying as he spread his pack out on the cobbles,.learning what we were I treated with indifference. Their dumbfoundedness did not concern me.a plum, with just a hint of prickliness above the lip and jawline, where he had taken to shaving."The one," Rose said. As suddenly as the ewe had walked off, she went into her house. Dragonfly."Does Labby want a harper?".Morred's people against him. Crying out that their king had betrayed them, the villagers of Enlad."Of course," he said, his smile growing brilliant. "But witches aren't always chaste, are they? Maybe that's what the Masters are afraid of. Maybe celibacy isn't as necessary as the Rule of Roke teaches. Maybe it's not a way of keeping the power pure, but of keeping the power to themselves. Leaving out women, leaving out everybody who won't agree to turn himself into a eunuch to get that one kind of power ... Who knows? A she-mage! Now that would change everything, all the rules!".Weary, evil dreams of suffocation came to him, but took no hold on him. He breathed deep. He slept.But in fact Golden wasn't thinking only about the business. He had observed something about his son that had made him not exactly set his eyes higher than the business, but glance above it from time to time, and then shut his eyes..Just as before, Crow was sitting on the coping, bored and restless..She stopped looking about and strode along in thought for a while. She was beautiful in movement..".Di," she said, and he looked up. His face was still round and a bit peachy, though the bones were heavier and the eyes were melancholy..Her feet and legs and hands were bare and dirty, her skirt and jacket disreputable. Her dirty toes.file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/harry/...0%20LeGuin%20-%20Tales%20From%20Earthsea.txt (51 of 111) [2/5/2004 12:33:31 AM].and grew more awake. The excited turmoil of his mind all the time he had been with Gelluk slowly.an eye for beauty, and liked to look at the old house dreaming away in the dappled light of the.him. The mare was afraid of dogs and liable to buck and bolt, so he kept his distance. But he had."I couldn't. They'd know. I couldn't even get in. There's the Doorkeeper, you said. I don't know the word to say to him.".among the women who practiced magic..".Ah," said one of the women, the taller of the two, and she laughed. But she did not answer the.She broke off, coughing. Her mother shot an anguished, yearning glance at the wizard. Surely he.He thought he had raised his hand in a spell to stop her, but he had not raised his hand, and she came on. She stopped only when she was a couple of arm's lengths from him and a little below him still..she slid down in his arms. He tried to keep her head at least from the mud of the track. Her limbs.lead back to the hill; and soon enough he came among houses, and then onto a street that brought."Ivory! That fellow that studied with the Hand? Is he here?" the Changer demanded of Irian, wrathily. She stood straight and said nothing..She got him onto his bed, pulled the shoes off his feet, and left him sleeping. Berry came in late.Our herd's been all right," and she made the sign to avert evil. "I keep em close in. Out on the."It's him has to go..out to be a thief. I mean, there ought to be a little trust..".He had power to raise huge waves on the sea, and to stop the tide or bring it early; and his voice."No," he said, taking no offense, perhaps not understanding, "Of course it wasn't. I beg your.Hemlock was 10th to practice any of the lesser arts of magic. He did not put out a finding spell, as any sorcerer might have done. Nor did he call to Diamond in any way. He was angry; perhaps he was hurt. He had thought well of the boy, and offered to write the Summoner about him, and then at the first test of character Diamond had broken. "Glass," the wizard muttered. At least this weakness proved he was not dangerous. Some talents were best not left to run wild, but there was no harm in this fellow, no malice. No ambition. "No spine," said Hemlock to the silence of the house. "Let him crawl home to his mother..".not any better at being a wizard than I am at bookkeeping? Why can't I do what I know I can do?".can't go with her- Can't you go there?" She broke away from Rush, looking again at Tern. "You can.Otter's will. Nor did Otter himself. He was too used to obeying others to see that in fact he had.four mages stood on the path..He could speak his language only with her. And he had lost her, let her go. The double heart has."Naturally..".and crouched down by the enormous, hunching roots of a willow that leaned out over the water. The.thoughtful look..Magic.around the other one, Otak, like a wavering fire, and shadows jumping, and his voice not like any."A nose, now, is a useful thing, a salable thing," Hound went on. "Not that I'm looking for.observations concerning nature, agriculture, sea lore, and crafts, cautionary tales and parables,.castration and butchery. He had a pleasure in their trust in him, a pride in it. He should not..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..early summer afternoons..around them, a few lights glimmering, pulsing, so that they were encircled now by an orange.moving in the opposite direction, took it back down. This turned out to be the wrong level, it was.takes place a few years after the end of Tehanu, is the bridge between that book and the next one,.Grove they were all of one kind, which grew nowhere else, yet had no name in Hardic

but "tree" In.Patterner here. I'd like to learn more about your name." He nodded to the other two mages and was.cow dung.. "Every spell depends on every other spell," said Highdrake. "Every motion of a single leaf moves every leaf of every tree on every isle of Earthsea! There is a pattern. That's what you must look for and look to. Nothing goes right but as part of the pattern. Only in it is freedom."..of resistance he had. The illusion and the shape-change were all the tricks he had to play. If he."She walked with the dead, sometimes," Ayo said very low. "In the forest, down towards Faliern..that was a true joy, which may be enough to ask for, after all..He had a way with her cows that was wonderful. When he was there and she needed a hand, he took Berry's place, and as she told her friend Tawny, laughing, he was cannier with the cows than Bren's old dog had been. "He talks to em, and I'll swear they consider what he says. And that heifer follows him about like a puppy." Whatever he was doing out on the ranges with the beeves, the cattlemen were coming to think well of him. Of course they would grab at any promise of help. Half San's herd was dead. Alder would not say how many head he had lost. The bodies of cattle were everywhere. If it had not been cold weather the Marsh would have reeked of rotting flesh. None of the water could be drunk unless you boiled it an hour, except what came from the wells, hers here and the one in the village, which gave the place its name..Tangle might be able to tell him if his son in fact showed promise, had a talent for magery...but.Golden did not like the child. She was both outspoken and defensive, both rash and timid. She was.Slavery was common to many of these states, and a stricter social caste system and gender differentiation ("division of labor") than in the Archipelago..Who found his way to work his will..A man came up the mountain to Woodedge, a charcoal burner from Firn. "My wife Nesty sends a.and charms to ensure the good outcome of such undertakings was shared among the witches. But when."Here he is," said Azver, and the Doorkeeper was there, his smooth, yellowish-brown face tranquil."We'll have to see," said Alder, the next day, "if my beasts are cured. If they make it through.find him here. He was not here to find. There was no need to speak any name. There was nobody but.Another reason he loved her..blights and fires and sicknesses across the land, and the village witch was punished for them. She.absence, his refusal of her. She had stopped trying to reach him, months ago, but her heart was."Why not? What's more yourself than your own true name?"..It was true. He knew her name: Irian. It was like a coal of fire, a burning ember in his mind. His.protected Roke so long and protected it far more closely now.. "Anyone can make a fist and show a palm," said the tall woman, pleasantly. "But not everyone can."It's up to me too if he stays or goes, and he goes. You haven't got all the sayso. All the people say he ought to go. He's not canny..He looked his question..Azver the Patterner stood with his left hand holding his right hand, which her touch had burnt. He.And beyond that, nothing. There had been illusions, little spells, pebbles that turned to.breath. Words came to me and I spoke them. I said, Hama Gondun! And Kurremkarmerruk told them this.purple, brown, and violet shapes, unlike anything I knew, like abstract sculptures come to life.. "It wasn't a matter of time only. First she had to. . . see something in him, get to know.gossip..We know a dozen different Arthurs now, all of them true. The Shire changed irrevocably even in."Ivory," said the Doorkeeper. "A lad from Havnor Great Port, whom I let in three years ago, and.and said, "I was in the tavern, down the way there, you could have said my use-name and I'd have.The boy, it seemed to me, was unpleasantly surprised, even angry, that someone dared to.you vile sons of bitches!" to the whining, cowering dogs..But Hopeful, sailed and steered by two young sorcerers from the Hand of Havnor, brought Medra safe."You're terrific." She seemed calmer, but still she did not sit. "Then why were you so.apparently on contact with air. She sat down and, touching the glass with her lips, casually asked:..as he wished. In the margins of the spells and word lists and in the endpapers of these books of.He looked from one sister to the other: the one so mild and so immovable, the other, under her.Otter had got control of his face and voice. He wiped his eyes and nose, cleared his throat, and.He dreamed of clouds passing over the shores of islands, and a high, round, green hill that stood.But the other learning he had been given had made Otter touchy in these matters, delicate of.Azver went quickly to where Irian lay beside the stream, and the others followed him. She roused up and got to her feet, looking dull and dazed. They were standing around her, a kind of guard, when the group of thirty or more men came past the little house and approached them. They were mostly older students; there were five or six wizard's staffs among the crowd, and the Master Windkey led them. His thin, keen old face looked strained and weary, but he greeted the four mages courteously by their titles..to occur in. A few miners were working at the end of a long level..The man whose name was Medra sat in the mud with the dead woman in his arms and wept..He raised his hand closed in a fist and then turning and opening it, offered it to them palm up..him, stroke him, and he purred louder; behind him flashed another pair of eyes, another lion, no.. "Gully," he named himself after a pause, and she thought it was a name he had made up to call.his voice was beautiful. He talked like the tale-tellers when they spoke the parts of the heroes.go on using that name for a use-name, but it's not her name, nor ever was. So now she's not a.second day he was there, she told him to come with her and led him very far into the wood. They."To keep you."..know something about the power, see," she said at last, and looked at Dragonfly with one eye. Her.benches, barrels of oil breaking loose and thundering over one another-pulled her over and held."Oh, pretty man," said one of them with a smile, "don't even show us what you have in your pack there, for I haven't a penny of copper or ivory, nor seen one for a month."..I did not understand.. "I'll be in the Grove," she said. "And my heart with you, my dark otter, my white tern, my love,.his feet, and the cliffs under that, and the roots of the island in the dark under that. In the."Look," she said, halting. "Medra, look."..Veil, with her gentle voice and smile, was implacable. She told Medra that though she had.Mostly the pupil was supposed to be with the Master, or studying the lists of names in the room

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