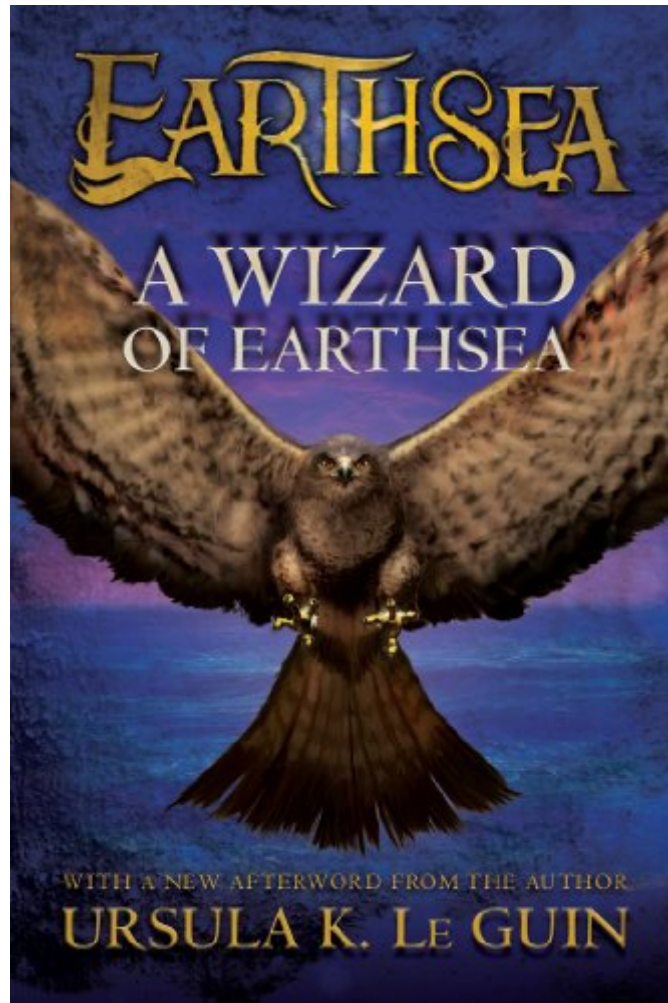


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# A Wizard Of Earthsea (The Earthsea Cycle Series Book 1)



## Synopsis

Originally published in 1968, Ursula K. Le Guin's *A Wizard of Earthsea* marks the first of the six now beloved Earthsea titles. Ged was the greatest sorcerer in Earthsea, but in his youth he was the reckless Sparrowhawk. In his hunger for power and knowledge, he tampered with long-held secrets and loosed a terrible shadow upon the world. This is the tumultuous tale of his testing, how he mastered the mighty words of power, tamed an ancient dragon, and crossed death's threshold to restore the balance. This ebook includes a sample chapter of *THE TOMBS OF ATUAN*.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Ursula K. LeGuin's "A Wizard of Earthsea" comes from a different place than the other two fantasists with whom her Earthsea trilogy is so often compared. Tolkien's so-called fantasy was a real attempt to capture what Tolkien believed the languages lost before the beginnings of early English, while his Oxford colleague wrote his Narnia fantasies from a Christian viewpoint. LeGuin's fantasy novels derive from her background in anthropology and show it in every way. The story concerns the Wizard Sparrowhawk and his education. Sparrowhawk comes from a desperately poor

village in the mountains, from among illiterate peasants (compare to the world of the hobbits, where, though illiterate, there is no squalor) who live with their goats. His home island, Gont, is the birthplace of Goatherds, Pirates, and Wizards, and from an early age Sparrowhawk shows his powers. After saving his village from an invading army, Sparrowhawk is apprenticed to Ogion, the great Mage. There Sparrowhawk begins to learn what Wizards know: the names of all things. He also is drawn to showing off, including calling up the dead. Too powerful and curious for Ogion, Sparrowhawk goes to the isle of Roke to attend the school there (Rowling only stole from the best) and finds he's not only the best pupil, but he can make enemies. In a boast, he calls up a spirit and brings out a sort of un-him. The un-him scars Sparrowhawk and kills the school's Archmage who uses his power to try and undo what Sparrowhawk has done. Ged, Sparrowhawk's true name, must now pursue this unhim while fighting dragons, evil stones, and gibbets, people the unhim have entered and destroyed. Finally, Ged turns on his pursuer to fight an epic battle on the unsea and reunite himself.

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