

Mary Bugs Names

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 19 Jul 1997

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m.driussi — 19 Jul 1997, 22:28

Reply: Item #3567343 from URTH at LISTS.BEST.COM@INET03#

Ron Crown,

Uh, wouldn't "Mariolatry" be more connected to daughter Mary rather than mama? (Or is mama's name also Mary? If true, this would spanner the works a bit.)

Re: grasshopper, well it certainly is a biblical critter renowned in the sf world by PKDick, and plausible that there is a Buddhist tale, too. Though what a grasshopper stands for, aside from agent of famine and destruction, or lazy schemer compared to wage-slave ant, I don't know offhand.

Re: meaning of Ernie Cotha. I don't know. "Sincere Disease"? (Gosh, put that together with the sinister grasshopper and you are halfway to the Four Horsemen!)

But on the topic of names, switch over to Urth. Given twin names Agilus/Agia (AGI+), Severian/Severa (SEVER+). Can we hazard a guess at familial naming conventions, at least for the upper classes? Thea and Thecla, half-sisters: it seems that they are named after their commonheld parent (THE+). Valeria, armigette, is possibly named after ancestor (VALOR) or (VAL+). Vodalus (VODA+).

Are ethnic roots of names reflected in their bearers? Abdiesus, archon of Thrax, is assumed to be an exultant because of his role as archon, and he might be as Persian as the saint he is named after. But is blonde little Dorcas as Semitic as Tabitha? Oh wait, "Dorcas" is the Greek form of Aramaic Tabitha (gazelle), so okay, she's a golden haired Achaeon. Well, if =that's= true, then "Abdiesus" is also likely Greek, no?

Roche is French. Merryn is a boy's name. Malrubius is Latinized Irish "Maelrubba" (and has a sense of "red"); Palaemon is Greek (with a sense of "white"); Gurloes is French?. Vodalus is Latinized Scottish.

Back to families:

Becan (Irish) + Casdoe (Persian?) = Severa/Severian.

Ouen (Welsh) + Catherine (Greek) = Severian/Merryn
("Severity"/"Mercy," or so I like to think).

Quick--who is the armiger formerly buried in Severian's mausoleum (early chapters of SHADOW)?

Just for fun, let's say he is VALOR. Note that the tomb has =five= coffins, two of which are empty (presumed looted, suggesting that they were the parents). One or more of the three offspring form a family which ends in Valeria, the last of her line.

"Catherine" the fallen pelerine seems related to Thea/Thecla. But how? Maybe she is the khaibit of their mother. Kept young in the Atrium of Time.

But I ramble.

=mantis=