

Hierodule fieldguide

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 02 Sep 1998

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m.driussi — 02 Sep 1998, 22:16

Yes, yes, we have been over this before. But still, who knows--maybe we'll figure something out?

The hierodules are creatures of Briah who are agents/tools of Hierogrammates in Yesod. The different types of hierodules in the Urth Cycle:

Kelpies--B&F are analogous to kelpies (re: Severian's reaction to their stateroom onboard the Tzadkiel). They are tall. Ossipago is an automaton, shorter in stature than they are. Water/horse symbols. Mischief, if not fatal (death by drowning).

Mother Reptile Hundred Eyes--the Cumaeen. Symbol of Earth, seer/pythoness.

???--Father Inire. He's a hunched little guy, a Daedalus or Hephaestus or Toth, and since Toth is the most ancient I tend to think of Inire as being something like Toth's totem, the ibis, a bent neck little bird hobbling around, finding treasures in the muck. (Of course, he's also Lewdis Carnal, Victorian child pornographer, hunched over his primitive camera obscura. <g>)

There are more Hierodules onboard the time saucer. Dr. Talos wants them to come out and blast/scare the natives. Severian sees most of them as mermen, but sees one and thinks it squirrel-like in its climbing around.

Here's a tidbit--

Barbatus: "Baldanders always comes to see us off" (III, ch. 34).

This makes it seem like OB&F have indeed skipped back sixty years or so (I'm guessing that the villagers of Murene built the castle for little Baldanders circa 50 years pre-Severian's Reign) and then blipped forward from there, visiting Baldanders from time to time. As this is their last visit with him, they are presumed to be about to skip back to some period prior to their last starting point.

=mantis=