

Valeria and the House of Azure

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Robert Borski — 09 Oct 1998, 15:20

Interesting observation. And it may be worth noting that the flower valerian has azure-colored petals.

I'm also wondering, in light of the above, if anyone can link the two (Valeria, Azure) to the passage in CITADEL where Severian, recalling the first time he met the old autarch, mentions the House Azure, and then parenthetically adds, "whose odd name I was now, perhaps, beginning to grasp."

Azure, according to the OED, is used for the blue color in heraldic coats-of-arms, so this might be a reference to the khaibits-as-cloned-exultants notion (which Appian reveals about a dozen pages earlier), but I was wondering if anyone else had an opinion.

Robert Borski