

Sieur Racho the randy

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 09 Oct 1998

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m.driussi — 09 Oct 1998, 22:54

Right, and I wrote Sieur Racho was in Nessus over a span of months because Severian first saw him in SHADOW ch. 6 in winter, strolling around the Old Citadel, then the fiacre race in spring (ch.

18); that Racho was "whoring around" because Agia recognizes the prostitute Racho was riding with (ch. 18); and that it seemed like Racho was either low on the social ladder (or slumming) because the Old Citadel is considered the dead side of the river, and Agia's area ain't much better--the quality people live/stay further north, though not necessarily as far north as the Sanguinary Field where Ava the Pelerine postulant comes from.

Oh, here's where you saw that Cyriaca's husband is in Nessus: "she was the wife of an armiger . . . who had gone to Nessus on some business or other" (III, ch. 5). And look, five paragraphs later, Cyriaca says she first saw Severian at court a week ago, when her husband charged one of their peons with theft. So Severian, with his fabled memory, saw her husband before he went to Nessus . . . or maybe not. Maybe the charge was read by a seneschal-as-proxy.

But it is true: high man from the province becomes low man at the vast metropolis. Probably can't even get in the door at the Archon's Palace of Nessus. Imagine the expression on Cyriaca's face when she, in her guise as commonality seamstress, bumps into his lustiness at Oldgate! Will he pursue her back to the house/shop she shares with Dorcas (another seamstress, Acts 9.36-43) and Ouen?

=mantis=