

Fechin (Redux)

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 18 Oct 1998

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Robert Borski — 18 Oct 1998, 22:05

mantis:

One of the things I screwed up in my Fechin post was the identity of little Sev's grandpa. I called him Becan's father, but Sev identifies him as Casdoe's father. She also states she was born in Thrax, while it seems (and may be stated or implied somewhere) that Rudesind was a native of Nessus. This proves nothing, of course--all three principles could have lived in Nessus or Thrax earlier, only to light out for other destinations later.

But look at the timeframe of each teller's attempt to link to Fechin. When Casdoe's father (who Sev remarks is Rudesind's age) tells his story, he and Fechin are contemporaries, both adolescent boys. When Rudesind tells his story, however, it appears Fechin's already an artist of some repute and Rudesind is a child. Says he: "An artist--a real one--came by where we lived. My mother, being so proud of me, showed him some of the things I'd done. It was Fechin."

Clearly, there's a discrepancy here--not that the personal testimony of elderly men might not be a little addlepat (hell, you should hear me reminisce). But it's exactly these sorts of mismatched details that led me to pose my original Fechin post, especially in light of how everybody in Nessus is soon claiming to have had face time with Severian the Great.

Robert Borski