

Eschatology and Genesis revisited

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 30 Mar 1999

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CRCulver — 30 Mar 1999, 22:14

In late 1997, there was a discussion of "Eschatology and Genesis" which was essentially my introduction to the list, and now it is archived in the 5th volumes of the archives. Now translating the play into Esperanto as a sort of intellectual exercise (no foolin'), I can see several interesting issues not previously covered.

Alice Turner wrote:

<<Baldanders's roles are downright fascinating. As Nod, he represents the elementals, the children of Urth, not only the Nephilim, Titans, Jontun, ogres, giants, trolls, creatures in the cave, Gayomart, Enkidu, etc, but also the dumb beasts who cannot speak for themselves. As the Statue, he stands for androids, demi-humans and the cacogens, but also, I think, for ruins, monuments, the nobler detritus of mankind. It's possible that he, rather than Dr. T, will play the Old Sun in the last act, yet he is crucial to the development of Ushas, or so I think>>

Alice says that Baldanders represents the cacogens, and I must humbly disagree. It would seem to me that the cacogens are represented by the two demons. In their little lecture to the Autarch, they speak of the new continents to be raised by the New Sun, especially of the precious metals soon to be exposed. Wolfe, in his role as translator, speculates that it is the possible trade of metals (as well as food and slave labour) which give the cacogens a reason to communicate with Urth. Also, the joy of the demons at the coming of the New Sun is furthermore tied to the Hierodules because, according to "The Key to the Universe" in volume four, the New Sun itself is a tool of the Hieros, used to "shape" humanity.

Does this hold water?

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