

Magnetic Poles

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 01 Oct 1999

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/1807>

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Greene, Carlton — 01 Oct 1999, 10:28

Mitchell Bailey wrote

Relevance? Severian doesn't use a magnetic compass. Nor does anyone else.

As I pointed out previously, Urth probably has little or no magnetic field because her core is said to have solidified or nearly solidified. And lack of any mention of magnetic compass use in the text is (admittedly weak) empirical support for that proposition.

You are absolutely correct, of course -- my apologies! Apart from your observation that no one relies on magnetic north for directions, a reversed north and south would be inconsistent with Severian's northward progress toward the equator, the existence of Ascias, an entire continent, above the equator to the north, and the polar ice to the south. I did not mean to add to the already extensive geographic confusion about Sev's travels.

C./