

Severian the Liar

The Urth list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 05 Nov 1999

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/1924>

Exported from an unofficial mirror of a public mailing list. Copyright in each message remains with the person who wrote it. Email addresses are obscured as `user at host`, the form the original archive published. This file was rebuilt from parsed fields rather than retained headers, so it is faithful in content but not byte-exact.

Ouroboros — 05 Nov 1999, 13:43

<<<<I really can't think of any instances (other than things that are just odd--who said what on page #1) where Severian outright lies.>>>>>>>

I have a hypothesis that every time Severian mentions his unparalleled memory, there is a Roche/Drotte-type contradiction of fact before and after it. Eventually, I'll test that hypothesis, but, Ron, since your just beginning to reread the cycle, keep an eye out for it.

I also believe that Severians "resurrection" from the Nessus is the point where Severian the Conciliator, Severian the New Sun, begins. If anyone is looking for a connection between Severian and Jesus Christ, this is it. Severian is just a torturer's apprentice until then. The bottom of the Nessus is the grave, and when Severian comes out of it, he's totally new.

My point is that Severian's statement that he's a habitual liar need not be treated concurrent with the story since it could be read as refering to how he had behaved before.

Carlos Martinho — 05 Nov 1999, 14:16 · follows Ouroboros

I also believe that Severians "resurrection" from the Nessus is the point where Severian the Conciliator, Severian the New Sun, begins. If anyone is looking for a connection between Severian and Jesus Christ, this is it. Severian is just a torturer's apprentice until then. The bottom of the Nessus is the grave, and when Severian comes out of it, he's totally new.

Nessus? I can be mistaken, but I think you mean the river Gyll (is this the correct spelling?). This could be a Christian paralel, anyway: not with the resurrection of Christ -- wich, anyway, marks the end of Jesus's "career" on Earth --, but the Baptism by John.