

Grab Bag

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 07 Sep 1997

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m.driussi — 07 Sep 1997, 22:31

Reply: Item #9830350 from URTN at LISTS.BEST.COM@INET01#

alga,

Today I'm thinking that this "Tracking Song" and "Tale of a Boy Called Frog" is strong enough to bring us back around to the "Changeling" models of Cutthroat origin, reinforced by the Mantru "Ishi" line of reasoning. That is to say: I'm not coming up with anything new here, only just maybe reviving some chestnuts and putting them in a new string; but it seems likely that Cutthroat is

=not, not, not= from the Great Sleigh, he is a remnant of the surface dwelling humans, last of his tribe, who set out walking after the death of the last other human he knew. (Glossing over his amnesia, glossing over his unusual neck mark).

So this is why Cutthroat is kind of like a changeling; why Cim could think him a beastman in Sleigh-clothes; why the Min would see him as human but still test him. He has the human hardware (genetic material) but not the Sleighter software (high tech whatnot).

Or, in other words: a last survivor of an earlier colonization wave makes his way through the frozen "jungle" of beastmen, robomen (I'm still holding out against "cyborg" here because we agree they are more like "jonases" [robo-cum-human] than "bionic men" [augmented humans, scanners, etc.]), and mutants (Mantru) to meet the return of the starwandering humans. Like Native American Indians stepping around the bleached bones of Viking colonists to meet the arriving Pilgrims (ouch).

Another thread--now that you know Wolfe put a lot of thought into making nevermade stone age weapons, think you can figure them all out? (Mainly I'm thinking about those wands. The twirling baton-launching crossbow device seemed straightforward enough, and the wo-wo wand is kinda out there, but the mink stick still intrigues us unanimously, no?)

=mantis=