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The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 29 Jan 2000

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Robert Borski — 29 Jan 2000, 15:52

More kibble for Nutria to munch away on:

<Wow, Borski. You make an interesting case. I guess it just does not make sense to me, without something a lot more explicit. From what I can tell, your interpretation assumes the "maximum delusion" view that Mantis set out for me/us.>

Actually, I don't buy into the maximum delusion view at all. I believe that Brook is killed by the women from the ziggurat, and that the women are time-shifted clones of Aileen, whose genetic material, paradoxically, may have been harvested by older versions of herself. (Why has Aileen been undressed in the ziggurat?) Time is anachronic around Haunted Lake, after all, and Wolfe is rather well known for these temporal sleights of hand. I also believe it's possible that the ziggurat itself is the actual alien manifestation (yclept Croatoan?), perhaps timeknapping people for some remote future; that or its real inhabitants are never glimpsed. At any rate the women killed by Emery are not Jan and the other twin, but the aileens/aliens.

Perhaps marrying or having sex with your step-daughter is not technically incest, but in my book it's close enough (sorry, Woody) and it does parallel the non-blood carnal aspect of the other Tamar's relationship with Judah. Also note that Phil Gluckman, who, as Emery's lawyer, almost certainly would be inclined to take his client's side, apparently believes Emery has molested Aileen. ("Your precious Phil Gluckman has questioned them, in my presence and my attorney's. Call him up right now. Ask him what he thinks.") Note too the almost total lack of colloquy between Emery and Aileen, whereas he and Alayna have several exchanges. And lastly Emery Bainbridge appears to fit the classic psychological profile of the in-house child molester--someone with low self-esteem (two divorces, business misadventures), who needs to reassert control however he can, and possibly avenge himself on his soon-to-be ex-wife.

Not that I expect any of this to sway you from your viewpoint, Nutria. At least on this one story we remain Borski over here, Jordan over there.

Robert Borski