

Pink dinosaurs

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 03 Feb 2000

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Robert Borski — 03 Feb 2000, 11:45

My first "Pepper Mill" post was dashed off between lunchtime sandwiches and was influenced somewhat by potent memories of Todd Solandz' "Welcome to the Dollhouse," which I'd watched over the weekend . But to expand on the color scheme of Tippy's dinosaur: a *pink* dinosaur is a dinosaur devoid of menace. Compared to, say, a realistic velociraptor, complete with kool simulated blood on the blood and claws--well, let's put it this way: Tippy is not very likely to become the junior alpha male of his playground peers once they see his stegosaur. So perhaps Wolfe is decrying the "feminization" of our culture. (Pink, certainly, is a woman's color and I'm reminded of the warden in one of our southwestern states who, to humiliate and cow his inmates, made them wear women's pink panties.) Tippy also already has a doll himself--a Power Ranger action figure--another notion Wolfe may find scarey and from which he needs to be saved.

When Buster Hill and Tippy have their conversation at the top of the lighthouse, it reminded me of Captain Ransom's appearances in "The Island of Doctor Death and Other Stories," whereas Tippy's episodes in the dollhouse are clearly oneiric. Tonally, the two stories are very similar, and it's hard to distinguish between where fantasy ends and reality begins.

Robert Borski