

Harry S Truman

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 27 Jun 2000

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Adam Stephanides — 27 Jun 2000, 23:13

David Duffy wrote:

In fact, it seems more than just plausible that Smoky's middle initial doesn't stand for anything--remember that he wears "A Suit of Truman's" to be married in and that the 'S' in Harry S. Truman is without further signification. I think that's the solution to the middle initial mystery.

Truman's name is actually written Harry S Truman -- not having the book here, what is the exact punctuation?

If you're asking about the punctuation of Smoky's legal name, he does put a period after the S.

Truman's name, on the other hand, appears as "Harry Truman," no S at all ("A Suit of Truman's," I, 4, p. 59 of Bantam TPB), although the S appears in the suit's monogram. Come to think of it, it strikes me as very unusual to refer to Truman as "Harry Truman"; either "Truman" or "Harry S Truman" are far more common. It's as if Crowley is emphasizing the "S" by omission.

Okay, so who's going to do the article on "The Letter 'S' in John Crowley's _Little, Big_"?

--Adam