

Cim glowing

The Urth list — 3 messages, 3 voices, 31 Oct 1997

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Peter Cash — 31 Oct 1997, 10:13

From: Jim Jordan <jbjordan at gnt.net>

Here's the Cim name quote (p 199 of the 1980 Timescape pb edition of IODDAOSAOS):

When I was born my father wished to name me
Seven Snows, which is a common name for girls
among our people. But I was born while he
was away in his boat; and before he returned,
my mother had left her bed and seen the Cim
blowing from tree to tree like a soft star in
the air, and completed the naming.

I have nothing to go on except the passage itself, but I figured that cim
is snow. Notice that the naming is "completed," which implies (possibly)
that the mother did not completely change the father's desires.

I hate to be always the contrarian (lie: I love it)...but I think "Cim" is an electrical phenomenon,
like St. Elmo's Fire or ball lightning. Either could fit the description of a "soft star" moving from
tree to tree. In addition there is Cim's weapon: perhaps the totemic naming conveys an
analogous power on the named one, and thus Cim's weapon is electrical.

Sgt. Rock

m.driussi — 31 Oct 1997, 17:36 · follows Peter Cash

Reply: Item #7198344 from URTH at LISTS.BEST.COM@INET00#

Sgt. Rock,

Hey, nice tie-in re: electicity and the weapon!

How'bout Cim as "firefly"? "Glowing?" Check! "Star-like?" Check! "Softer than thunder?" Check!

Random Latin: cimex (a bug).

=mantis=

Jim Jordan — 03 Nov 1997, 21:06 · follows m.driussi

Mantis writes:

Hey, nice tie-in re: electicity and the weapon!

How'bout Cim as "firefly"? "Glowing?" Check! "Star-like?"
Check! "Softer than thunder?" Check!

Random Latin: cimex (a bug).

Ya beat me to it, Mantis. After thinking more about snow, I settled on lightning bug/firefly, and was planning to post.... And, if "cim" is bug, then "cim glowing" is clearly firefly.

I'll ride with this one until somebody gives a good reason to depart from it.

Nutricious