

# PEACE: Helen and Shirley

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 10 Nov 2000

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Roy C. Lackey — 10 Nov 2000, 01:27

About Miss Birkhead: I've had to talk myself out of the idea--more than once--that she and Sherry Gold were the same person. Sherry dies; Den has a stroke. Birkhead dies; Den has a stroke/heart attack/whatever and dies. It's a bit much for coincidence. Birkhead is never described, mention is never made of what, exactly, became of Sherry, and the Sherry is 16 \_now\_ comment seems to indicate that he knew her when she was past that age. Yes, Birkhead was secretary to Smart before Den (for how long?); yes, she told Den later about how the department heads could tell when Smart was going to make an inspection (how long ago was that?); yes, the death notice said she was married with children (does that make it true?), and her maiden name would seem to be Birkhead, yes, but still . . . still, the notion has its appeal. It can't be true--can it?

And a birk is a birch. What can be made of that?

Roy