

Dhoss bhoyes

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 22 May 2001

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Roy C. Lackey — 22 May 2001, 16:08

Further perusal of HEBREW MYTHS yields the following wrt the fratricide of Cain and Abel:

"Still others hold that the brothers quarrelled for love of the First Eve, whom God had formed to be Adam's helpmeet, but who had been rejected." (16. d)

Lilith had been God's first attempt at giving Adam a "helpmeet" (because Adam had been envious of the coupling of the male-female pairs of the beasts, but bestiality didn't prove to be his cup of tea), but that didn't work out for the reason given in an earlier post. So:

"Undismayed by His failure to give Adam a suitable helpmeet, God tried again, and let him watch while he built up a woman's anatomy: using bones, tissues, muscles, blood and glandular secretions, then covering the whole with skin and adding tufts of hair in places. The sight caused Adam such disgust that even when this woman, the First Eve, stood there in her full beauty, he felt an invincible repugnance. God knew that He had failed once more, and took the First Eve away. Where she went, nobody knows for certain." (10. f)

God's third attempt, using Adam's rib, was satisfactory, yielding the Eve we are more familiar with. As I have indicated before, Wolfe has a tendency to conflate and otherwise rearrange mythological elements to suit himself, which is what he seems to me to have done in "Copperhead". Thus "Dhoss bhoyes, de vhun keels de odder", I still maintain refers to Cain and Abel, whether or not it also refers to the murdered man and Boone. Wolfe has conflated Lilith and the First Eve of Hebrew mythology and made her the cause of the biblical first fratricide.

-Roy