

# walk through brush magic

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 11 Feb 2002

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maa32 — 11 Feb 2002, 15:36

Woah! I never considered the connotations of the "magic" abilities that Silk obviously has until it was phrased in a previous post as "walk through brush magic." This seems to me a pretty obvious affinity with plants and scrubs - maybe he is a tree man. (Pig can avoid trees because he has sonar, being a godling machine). I think that particular power (avoid flora) really jives with my tree theories - perhaps Silk has some tree in him.

Another strange power is the narrator's ability to change the story of Fava while she is telling it. I actually think that this is an ability that Silk has and can exert on everyone. People will tell stories about him, and he can influence those stories unconsciously (or consciously). I think this is another of his special qualities - I think he actually influenced the writing of The Book of the Long Sun and the intercalary chapters of Return to the Whorl - which makes a much better case for a possible divine nature in Silk: he can inspire texts written about him just as God can inspire biblical texts without them being literally true (in a Catholic sense, anyway). However, I think this is an engineered talent he always had. Notice how quickly people are telling stories of his enlightenment in Nightside after he just tells one or two people. His power involves people's willingness to tell stories about him. I asked Wolfe the question "Can Silk change the accounts written about him, as he did the story of the inhuma, to hide or obscure things?" Wolfe responded: "I don't think Silk would do something like that unless it was for emphasis." He did not deny that this was a special quality Silk had. Since that question, Wolfe has not addressed any more of my inquiries. Marc Aramini