

The failure of the Autarch and the Second Chance of Severian

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 24 Jan 1998

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CRCulver — 24 Jan 1998, 16:49

Vizcacha said:

In his far future, someone decided that if only he had been a little better, had lived a life that prepared him better for the test, he might have succeeded. So, they came back and gave him that life, and he did."<

Yes, Tzadkiel gave Severian the circumstances to become autarch by unmanning the previous Autarch. That's why I wince when I hear people use the word "punishment." The Autarch's castration wasn't a punishment for his failure to bring the New Sun back to Urth, it was merely a device to insure Severian, who *could* bring the NS, would get his day.

Christopher R. Culver <crculver at aol.com>

<http://members.aol.com/crculver/index.html>

"Ignorance, that light of fools steers a wayward path"

-Brendan Perry