

memory of Seawrack

The Urth list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 19 Mar 2002

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/3053>

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maa32 — 19 Mar 2002, 17:30

Roy gave this passage:

"Every time I remembered something that happened there, I would think of something that's happened since I've been with you, some little thing or something you said, and put it there instead."

This is the passage I was referring to: she is able to place memories in other places and times. What is the "there"? It is the past, underwater life she lived ... she is saying she can place events that happen with Horn in her past, and he can do it, too. In any case, that is an ambiguous there that seems to mean a time as well as a place (and I don't think it refers only to her memory.)

William Ansley said something about that being a scrubbing brush?! Why would it climb up a tree? If it's a soft brown underbrush, it will be right next to a tree right? Why would a hair brush run up a tree? How is there no basis for further discussion? I don't understand what you are saying. Besides, the leaf sprouting stuff is a foreshadowing of the vile intelligence of the avern, obviously a sentient plant that knows Severian is there and wants to kill him. I don't think my recollection was that faulty ... are you saying that it was a hairbrush?!

Marc

matthew.malthouse — 20 Mar 2002, 11:45 · follows maa32

On 19/03/2002 17:30:23 maa32 wrote:

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Too much. She's altering *her* memory.

The experiences she treasures replacing the past that distresses her.

The use of language really isn't that ambiguous: there is only one possible referend for the last

"there", the place in her mind where an older memory existed.

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Because the point of the passage is the flambeaux giving life to that which is dead.

To "give life" to something already living would negate the wonder of the thought, it'd be superfluous and make the passage pointless.

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I recall - and memory is faulty - the mechanism of the avern being explained. Is there something that would substantiate according to its intelligence?

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"...rough brown brush..."

Think an old fashioned scrubbing brush, wooden back darkened by repeated immersions, bristles similarly aged - I have one on my kitchen window sill if you'd like a picture.

One point though is that both the objects are given life when dead; but both *were once living*.

If you want foreshadowing think Claw and resurrection.

Matthew