

# 5HC Strong Evidence of Telepathy?

The Urth list — 3 messages, 3 voices, 26 Apr 2002

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/3205>

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Michael Andre-Driussi — 26 Apr 2002, 23:15

Tony Ellis, referring to the list of names, wrote:

The Old Wise One has pulled these names out of the minds of passing starship crews. Check out the speech preceding the list of names, which begins "We came here either recently or a long, long time ago." He says that when the Shadow Children try to remember the name of 'their' home, they "hear also the mind-singing", ie pick up the thoughts of, passing starship crews, and "these thoughts come into our songs." The next sentence is the list of names.

So. The Shadow Children know that 'their' home is somewhere long ago and far away. They find some pretty names for places long ago and far away in the minds of passing starship crews that seem to strike a chord, so these are the ones they come up with.

Leaving aside the issues of shape-changing (yes/no), and abo existence (yes/no), one thing I think this quote does point to rather strongly is telepathy in general and the weird psychic linkage between Number 5 and V.R.T.

Because while nearly all of the other names could plausibly be plucked out of passing starships over time, Gondwanaland seems to be coined by Number 5 in his lesson at the library, on a very specific day.

Does this mean that the moment when Number 5 is saying it out loud is simultaneous to the moment when OWO is saying it? (Not in the "distant Annese past" sense of "A Story," but in one of the other senses: for example, the "the story is a disguised version of V.R.T.'s real life and crimes" sense, where it might thereby point to V.R.T. being in some kind of sandpit/prison at the time when Number 5 was in the library.) Maybe, maybe not.

Furthermore, this detail adds to the other strange confusions between V.R.T. and Number 5: two others include the fact that Number 5 sees robot guards gone berserk, killing prisoners in the third year of his sentence (Ace pb p. 70), and V.R.T. had a dream of robots going berserk, killing him (210); Number 5 has dream of court fenced with pillars, which echoes the woodhenge observatory on Sainte Anne seen by Marsch, shown by V.R.T.

One brother who dreams the life and trials of the other brother, this is a big element of "A Story." And when they finally meet, one brother kills the other; and Number 5 may have set in motion V.R.T.'s arrest when he denounced him as an abo spy (that is: what if "A Story" is retelling V.R.T.'s life prior to prison).

=mantis=

Sirius Fiction

booklets on Gene Wolfe, John Crowley

PEACE: a timeline WITH dates! Come see!

Adam Stephanides — 03 May 2002, 14:13 · follows Michael Andre-Driussi

on 4/26/02 6:15 PM, Michael Andre-Driussi at mantis at siriusfiction.com wrote:

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There is another possible explanation for the strange echoes between V.R.T. and Number Five: that Number Five has written all three parts, not just the first part. He wrote his autobiography "to disclose myself to myself"; he might very well have retold his story in fictional guise for the same reason. (And if one Gene Wolfe can write fiction, so can another.) And it would no doubt have amused him to portray Marsch as being in reality what he had accused him of being to insult him and drive him away; to show the Port Mimizon beauracracy as slipshod and inefficient; and to show the museum at Roncevaux, and by extension the library at Port Mimizon, as gullible (Trenchard's fake artifacts).

I don't really believe this theory, but I don't think it can be disproven either, at least not through internal evidence.

--Adam

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Jerry Friedman — 03 May 2002, 17:43 · follows Adam Stephanides

--- Adam Stephanides <adamsteph at earthlink.net> wrote:

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They're not quite that similar, if I remember correctly. Number Five sees one robot go berserk and kill a number (15?) of prisoners; V. R. T. dreams of several non-berserk robots killing him. But I don't think I'd have noticed the resemblance at all, so thanks! ...

Jerry Friedman