

PEACE: the Coldhouse unicorn

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 20 Aug 2002

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Michael Andre-Driussi — 20 Aug 2002, 19:36

If we are considering Charlie Turner as a "unicorn" then we might also consider the ghost of the coldhouse prank as one, too.

This immediately makes a lot of sense, really: since we are told that the motive of Dan French in telling the tale to the reporter is to distract the reporter from his "muckraking" goal. The coldhouse prank, as it is used, is literally a red herring used by one character against another! Motive: to keep the reporter from getting information truly damaging to the company and/or morale. Method: a wild goose chase (which itself finds a funny echo in the story of the Sidhe that French tells Weer).

Weer might not have been the culprit, after all -- in fact, the whole thing could be just an urban legend, an event which never really happened yet is spoken of enough that employees are familiar with it.

Over the years we have spent a lot of time trying to figure out the Weer angle of the coldhouse prank (motive, timing, etc.), and in doing so we may have been as misled as the reporter, if the ghost is another unicorn.

Quick switch back to the sepia photos: part of the problem is a time-splice, right? Because Weer expects his secretary to answer his summons and is surprised by this strange woman, it is as though he thought he was at the point in time when he had just received the letter and photos from Charlie Turner, when actually it is much later . . . perhaps later enough that the photos, formerly fresh, are now clearly aged, and his secretary has been replaced.

=mantis=