

# Coldhouse Banshee

The Urth list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 26 Aug 2002

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/3424>

Exported from an unofficial mirror of a public mailing list. Copyright in each message remains with the person who wrote it. Email addresses are obscured as `user at host`, the form the original archive published. This file was rebuilt from parsed fields rather than retained headers, so it is faithful in content but not byte-exact.

---

Dan'l Danehy-Oakes — 26 Aug 2002, 16:27

Good heavens ... Stone Ox has brought up a marvellous correspondence, and then missed something that ... well, I guess it isn't obvious because I never saw it before either, but somehow it jumped out of his posting at me:

Jack stays in the barn haunted by the banshee three nights.

...as does the coldhouse prank victim (Friday, Saturday, Sunday nights).

Okay, then: making the banshee story as abstract as possible... J wants very badly a treasure in F's possession. F dislikes / looks down on J / regards J as a poor recipient for the treasure, but for some reason does not give an outright "No." Instead, he sets J to spend three nights in a place which should kill him.

Now, one of the things the embedded stories in PEACE seem to do is to provide better or happier endings to some of the situations in Weer's life. So I am moved to speculate that the Coldhouse Prank was not a prank at all, but a deliberate attempt to keep a "real world" (Weer's reality) J from acquiring something that a "real world" F did not want him to have but could not deny him.

To those for whom the book is fresher in their minds than it is in mine, then: Do any possible real-world F's and J's come to mind? The most obvious candidate for F would be Julius, who owns the barn / coldhouse... is this even plausible? And if so, who would be J?

(Is this another candidate for when Den "really" died?)

---

StoneOx17 — 27 Aug 2002, 15:44 · follows Dan'l Danehy-Oakes

Blattid (Dan'l Danehy-Oakes) writes:

Good heavens ... Stone Ox has brought up a marvellous correspondence,

Thank you.

and then missed something that ... well, I guess it isn't obvious because I never saw it before either, but somehow it jumped out of his posting at me:

It wasn't obvious to me. I came across these correspondences by assuming that Julius was the devil (as suggested by Robert Borski's essay, "The Devil his Due.") and once I made this connection, the i

Jack stays in the barn haunted by the banshee three nights.

...as does the coldhouse prank victim (Friday, Saturday, Sunday nights).

That's wonderful. It's either a remarkable coincidence, or something very clever on the part of Wolfe.

On another topic, I just saw that an interview with Gaiman and Wolfe is coming out in the September issue of Locus, and that an excerpt from it has already been posted at <http://www.locusmag.com/2002/Issue09/GaimanWolfe.html> -- even the brief excerpt is very interesting.

--Stone Ox