

In the Sewer

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 03 Dec 2002

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/3644>

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James Jordan — 03 Dec 2002, 19:25

At 11:11 AM 12/3/2002, you wrote:

I have kind of wondered about that. Has anyone come up with any reason _why_ the VP wanted that sewer cleaned? Did they do it just to give him a sword? Seems kind of unlikely.

--Blattid

1. Seems Herculean, and given Wolfe's interest in and knowledge of Greek myth, such might be at least one allusion. But I'm not up on legends about Hercules/Herakles, so I'll toss this ball to anyone who wants to bat at it. Is there anything specific about the Augean Stables Cleansing that would fit in here?
 2. Is this a test of sorts? Jesus said, "Those who would be great among you must be slaves of all." Horn (Horn Plus) is on his way to becoming a ruler, in different ways, in three cultures. He's "rewarded" with a sword, right? Cleaning a toilet seems not only Herculean, but also a very humble work. "If you're willing to do this, then you are ready to rule." "Only those who are willing to do this kind of thing are fit for rule." Is that part of it?
 - 2b. Is cleaning out this sewer analogous to Horn Plus's later political activities? (I love the line in **Last Action Hero** that goes something like "There's something rotten in the state of Denmark, and Hamlet's here to take out the trash!") David killed a lion and a bear to prepare him to kill Goliath. Horn Plus cleans out a sewer to prepare him for political office.
- Well, them's my thoughts. Maybe someone has some others.

Nutria