

names, Blue is Urth..

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 13 Dec 2002

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ArchD'Ikon Zibethicus — 13 Dec 2002, 04:10

Well, I'm quite happy to trudge along as Zibethicus if everybody else can live with it - I have no wish to occupy somebody else's `muskrat'. Zibethicus might sound like a silly name to many, but I'm generally known by it on the Net and in divers other quarters. So, can we live with that? Zx or ->Zx<- will do for short...

I judiciously snipped my sig., too - dunno whether I can live with changing it, but I'll try to remember to snip it. Get stuck into me if I forget.

`Urth is Blue' theory; as far as I remember, the Long Sun Whorl is stopped at the Blue/Green system for repairs. There is no explicit statement of how quickly it was designed to travel. I suppose that it is just possible that, given that it was sent out during Typhon's initial reign, several hundred years at least before Severian's advent as Autarch, if it travelled at an appreciable percentage of the speed of light, the Whorl would experience some time dilation.

If I remember correctly, the inhabitants of the Long Sun Whorl apprehend that three hundred years have elapsed since departure. If it was travelling rapidly enough for time dilation to occur, their three centuries would have been - who knows? millions of years by Urth standards. Long enough, at any rate, for the people seeded by Severian's activation of the New Sun to evolve on the New Urth into, perhaps, the Vanished People, and then to tactfully depart when colonists arrive from the Short Sun whorl. (Any reader of Olaf Stapeldon knows that body forms can take on all sorts of other forms over the kaplas - and, speaking as an arthritic with a bad back and bad knees, I would put my hand(s) up for two extra legs anytime! More stable...)

This putative lapsation of time would allow for the jungles of the Moon mentioned in the Book of the New Sun to evolve further into the gigantic trees of Green.

That's one way to explain it, if an explanation is what you are seeking. How the Long Sun Whorl is, in that scheme, supposed to have found its way back to Urth I have no idea whatsoever. You'd have to ask Mr. Wolfe...

->Zx<-

(bereft of sig.!)