

DOORS: some questions and thoughts

The Urth list — 4 messages, 3 voices, 30 Dec 2002

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/3730>

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StoneOx17 — 30 Dec 2002, 14:09

I'm rereading "There are Doors" again, and am around a third of the way through. Here are some questions and comments.

Did Lara really turn winter into summer? (p 26, Tor mass market edition; around 4 pages into chapter 4.) Or did they walk through a "door into summer"? How is this connected with her mythological aspect as the Goddess? How does the flow of time run in the two worlds anyway? As Goddess, is Lara bound by it?

The hero's last name is Green (although Wolfe always refer to him as "he". Do we ever learn his first name?

There are quite a few asides about Green's mother, some rather intriguing ("Surely his mother had taught him a spell for salamanders.") I pretty much ignored them in my previous readings, but I suspect there's an important reason for them. This time, I'll try to pay more attention.

There seem to be some references to "Peace." Am I reading too much into things? Here they are:

"... wondering if he was not in fact dead. He remembered hearing about Purgatory as a child; even then he had not believed it, but perhaps he had been wrong ..." (p. 111)

"He felt that he himself was only a ghost, riding a ghostly elevator in a phantom hotel, that this building had fallen to the wrecking ball long ago ..." (p. 114)

Are there any references to other Wolfe books?

--Stone Ox

Spectacled Bear — 02 Jan 2003, 12:45 · follows StoneOx17

At 14:09 2002-12-30, StoneOx17 at aol.com wrote:

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It's a very long time since I read Doors, but I don't think his name is really Green. He is asked his name, doesn't answer, then gives Green as the answer to a different question.

There, now we can have two is-it-really-Green? threads going. Watch out for the trees....

Spectacled Bear.

Joe Cilluffo — 02 Jan 2003, 13:28 · follows Spectacled Bear

I'm only 70 pages in, but I'm under the impression that Green actually is his last name (or at least he thinks it is). When he first appears at the Downtown Mental Health Center you are correct, he explains that green is a bluish green (there, that should make the debate even more apropos for the list, we're discussing Blue and Green!). The nurse then begins calling him Mr. Green, which is the mixup you refer to. However, we then read as she continues to call him Mr. Green "He started to ask how she knew his name (he had refused to give it to the temporary receptionist) but he thought better of it." (Orb, pp. 5-6)

I took this to mean that the nurse interpreted his explanation of what viridian is (...Green) as providing his last name to her prompt of "Viridian, Mr. ...?" but that, though she mistook his explanation, she still arrived at the correct name.

Follow up question -- is the protagonist of TAD really Urth's The Green Man??? ;)

- Shell

-----Original Message-----

From: Spectacled Bear [mailto:spectacled.bear at pobox.com] Sent: Thursday, January 02, 2003 7:46 AM To: urth at urth.net Subject: Re: (urth) DOORS: some questions and thoughts

At 14:09 2002-12-30, StoneOx17 at aol.com wrote:

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Spectacled Bear.

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Joe Cilluffo — 02 Jan 2003, 13:31 · follows Joe Cilluffo

Incidentally, I meant to say he explains that "Viridian is a bluish green," not "green is a bluish green." Sorry for the mixup, I haven't had my coffee yet!

-----Original Message-----

From: Joe Cilluffo [mailto:cilluff1 at optonline.net]

Sent: Thursday, January 02, 2003 8:29 AM

To: urth at urth.net

Subject: RE: (urth) DOORS: some questions and thoughts

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