

Again: Mirrors, Apports

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 18 Feb 1998

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m.driussi — 18 Feb 1998, 03:35

Reply: Item #8489663 from URTH at LISTS.BEST.COM@INET02#

Kieran,

Re: entering the circle, the "circle" I allude to is the circle of magic mirrors looking at each other. Octogon, what have you. I believe Odillo calls it circle in "The Cat." The teleporter pad that Jonas stepped onto--the same as which the household cat was tossed onto.

Re: the one apport we really know. I believe that we see apport Zak long before it is in the cargo hold. Chapter one, in fact, while Severian is flying up like a rocket: "Once I seemed to see, suspended (as it appeared) in the space between two sails, an indistinct golden shape veined with crimson."

(Before you discount this as a mere vision of the cross, recall that when Zak becomes the "improved, glossy" Severian, Zak is quite golden.)

Also note that the apport appears rather close to Yesod, i.e., on the nebulous border of Briah whereon are scattered all the atoms of mirror walkers.

Re: the light source for Inire's teleporter. I know that we are meant to think "laser," but I sense that it is more like "Yesod light," for example the sunlight at worldship Yesod.

Re: what drives the sails of the starships, well, it ain't likely to be sunlight or starlight, Severian's understanding notwithstanding. Unless, by mirror magic, each light point is replicated upon the mirror surface as a minute stellar emission, giving one sided thrust with zero additional mass. Otherwise gamma rays, cosmic rays, tachyons, aetheric vibrations, the ray of propulsion . . . hard to say.

=mantis=