

Urth Digest, Vol 39, Issue 20

The Urth list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 29 Nov 2007

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/4938>

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Ashley Crill — 29 Nov 2007, 07:34

'Ship volant' is not the only piece of evidence we have concerning the nature of the ship on Severian's tomb. Consider this bit:

I know too in whose mausoleum I tarried as a child, that little building
of stone with its rose, its fountain and its flying ship all graven. I
have disturbed my own tomb, and now I go to lie in it." Citadel XXXVIII

Since none of the sailing vessels that Severian uses in the narrative are mentioned as ahving wings, I think its safe to assume that he does mean a ship that flies. The ship is graven on his tomb as one of the symbols of his life, and to those that built the tomb, Severian disappeared while traveling on a space ship. Its possible that the graven ship is actually the tender on which Severian flew to Tzadkiel's ship. The tender looks like a terrestrial sailing vessel according to Book of the New Sun, which could have led to the ambiguity about its nature, especially in the mind of a young Severian who may have originally thought that it was a terrestrial vessel.

matthew at calmeilles.co.uk — 29 Nov 2007, 10:48 · in reply to Ashley Crill

ash_crill at hotmail.com wrote:

"I know too in whose mausoleum I tarried as a child, that little building
of stone with its rose, its fountain and its flying ship all graven. I
have disturbed my own tomb, and now I go to lie in it." Citadel XXXVIII

This bugs me. Which Dead Kennedy, sorry, Severian would it have been built for?

Matthew