

Inhuma Inigma

The Urth list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 26 Jan 2009

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/5324>

Exported from an unofficial mirror of a public mailing list. Copyright in each message remains with the person who wrote it. Email addresses are obscured as `user at host`, the form the original archive published. This file was rebuilt from parsed fields rather than retained headers, so it is faithful in content but not byte-exact.

O'Donnell, Tim BOSI — 26 Jan 2009, 11:16

Some mild BOTLS spoilers and more serious BOTSS spoilers below

I kind of had a problem with this as well in that the answer seems to lie outside the BOTLS. When I read BOTLS I assumed that when the Whorl reached Blue/Green some initial probes were dispatched to gather information on the system. Some inquisitive Inhuma managed to stow away on the probes and were returned to the Whorl.

Now, BOTSS provides a nice Deux Ex Machina mechanism for us - the Neighbours beamed them on board. This is a bit unfair to the reader though, the answer doesn't lie in BOTLS at all.

BOTSS introduces some new issues though, in order to be sentient as Quetzal is, Quetzal's mother would have had to feed on a human. So where are these primal Inhuma? Are these the creatures out by the lake biting innocents?

My impression from BOTSS (but I have yet to read the last book, damn long distance orders!) was that the Neighbours encouraged humans/Inhuma to live together as they knew that they could potentially find a harmony that the Neighbours/Inhuma could not. The Inhuma secret amounts to: If humans did not prey on each other, the inhuma could not prey on humans. If this is the motivation of the Neighbours then perhaps they introduced Inhuma to the Whorl early on in order to kick-start this process. How did Quetzal even end up head of the Church?

James Wynn — 26 Jan 2009, 14:12 · in reply to O'Donnell, Tim BOSI

Inhuma Inigma>I kind of had a problem with this as well in that
the answer seems to lie outside the BOTLS.

The BOLS and BOSS are a single novel. The Inhumi are among several dangling threads that are not tied-up until the SS.

J