

Quasi-Christ

The Urth list — 4 messages, 3 voices, 10 Feb 2009

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/5337>

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O'Donnell, Tim BOSI — 10 Feb 2009, 11:14

I am fully on-board in the thoughts that Severian is a quasi-Christ (as has been said here a number of times and a number of different ways that he represents some of the aspects of Christ).

I posted this on the Gene Wolfe Book Club yesterday:

The following occurs in Claw:

"To me you're Life, and you're a young man named Severian, and if you wanted to put on different clothes and become a carpenter or a fisherman, no one could stop you."

To me this indicates that Severian is like Christ in some ways but Wolfe is here drawing a difference between Jesus (carpenter by trade and fisher of men) and Severian (torturer by trade and doesn't so much fish men as wangle his way into position as head of the fish factory).

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O'Donnell, Tim BOSI — 10 Feb 2009, 14:56 · follows O'Donnell, Tim BOSI

For those also posting over on the Gene Wolfe Book Club I have just posted something similar there but in brief,

I wonder if Severian is not so much Christ as Saul (Paul of Tarsus)?

Paul violently persecuted the followers of Jesus after all (could you say tortured them?) and then discovered Jesus/God and underwent a conversion.

In Severian's case there is no dramatic conversion but a gradual awakening to a new moral code (as exemplified by his disbanding his own guild at the end of the series).

Having said that, I could never claim to be well versed in the Bible or Catholic teachings so I could be way off on this...

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David Stockhoff — 10 Feb 2009, 18:08 · follows O'Donnell, Tim BOSI

Well said. Surely no one ever said that to Frodo!

Message: 5

Date: Tue, 10 Feb 2009 11:14:27 -0000

From: "O'Donnell, Tim (BOSI)" <Tim.O'Donnell at bankofscotland.ie>

Subject: (urth) Quasi-Christ

To: <urth at urth.net>

Message-ID:

<63FB9AC7E0AEC7459DBCC99DC44247CA01F6B732 at BOSIDEXDB.Bankofscotland.ie>

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"

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Dan'I Danehy-Oakes — 11 Feb 2009, 17:27 · in reply to O'Donnell, Tim BOSI

Not to be3 fussy, but Severian doesn't "disband" the Guild, he "reforms" it.

On Tue, Feb 10, 2009 at 6:56 AM, O'Donnell, Tim (BOSI)

<Tim.O'Donnell at bankofscotland.ie> wrote:

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