

Seawrack's Arm

The Urth list — 7 messages, 5 voices, 17 Mar 2009

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/5362>

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b sharp — 17 Mar 2009, 04:01

The other initial mystery about Seawrack is how she came to have one arm. My first thought (again hearkening back to BotNS themes) is that she was produced asexually, a bud grown from The Mother and in need of haste, she was released prematurely before her last arm was formed.

Later she does say she remembers having a real mother before The Mother. But I think we are meant to believe krait when he asserts that Seawrack is a perpetual liar. I tend to think she is lying when she says things that make her seem more human (as she was instructed to do) and telling the truth when she reveals siren-ish things.

When Horn re-finds her sitting on a rock after a long separation he seems to report she was reverting and seems more coiled around the rock than sitting. In a conversation soon after that we might get a moment of truth from her when she says that drowned dead bodies are for eating (that could be the real motivation for being a siren, they are predators..).

James Wynn suggests she could have been built from the corpse of the pirate- woman Horn killed earlier. That's an interesting idea I hadn't thought of... but I get the impression she had been a siren for a while..long enough to have developed the sense that dead sailors are for eating and needing retraining to not eat raw fish.

I am suspicious of that pirate ship. It is all black, and Horn thinks the people on it are mostly women. Perhaps they are all women? I keep thinking of BotNS and how Abaia is twice suggested as having a physical presence above the water in the shape of a ship. And there are the Corn Maidens and the undines associated with him.

A short while after Horn shot one of the pirate-women and she fell into the sea, he awakes to find blood all over the deck. He has a vague fantasy about the woman he shot swimming and following their boat and jumping aboard but he dismisses that as an impossibility. But it wouldn't be impossible for a siren/mermaid. Perhaps it was his shot that took her not-so-necessary arm off? And I wonder if the black ship wasn't an above-water creation of The Mother for carrying her offspring.

-bsharp

swowra at gmail.com — 17 Mar 2009, 04:39 · follows b sharp

Babbie tore her arm off while protecting the boat.

Stuart Hamm — 17 Mar 2009, 06:40 · in reply to b sharp

Again, I'm re-re-reading and really trying to get a grip on this series...(I know,right??)

I'll try to find the passage manana but I believe it's made clear that Babbie took off her arm the first time she tried to get on the boat....

I'm buying part of her one arm thing being a visual nod to Venus de Milo...a bit of humor from GW??

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--- On Mon, 3/16/09, b sharp <bsharporflat at hotmail.com> wrote:

From: b sharp <bsharporflat at hotmail.com>

Subject: (urth) Seawrack's Arm

To: urth at urth.net

Date: Monday, March 16, 2009, 9:01 PM

The other initial mystery about Seawrack is how she came to have one arm. My first thought (again hearkening back to BotNS themes) is that she was produced asexually, a bud grown from The Mother and in need of haste, she was released prematurely before her last arm was formed.

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-bsharp

Jeffrey Brent McBeth — 17 Mar 2009, 11:18 · in reply to Stuart Hamm

On Mon, Mar 16, 2009 at 11:40:36PM -0700, Stuart Hamm wrote:

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I'll try to find the passage manana but I believe it's made clear that Babbie took off her arm the first time she tried to get on the boat....

I concur that it is made pretty clear that Babbie did it.

Jeff

"The man who does not read good books has no advantage over the man who cannot read them."

-- Mark Twain

Brian Lovely — 17 Mar 2009, 18:00 · follows Jeffrey Brent McBeth

I was never entirely sure if Babbie had actually bitten off Seawrack's arm. I HAVE, however, always been curious what that "sharing" of blood might have done to Babbie. Also, In Pajarocu, when Silk/Horn mentions blood (I think in the context of the Inhumani) Seawrack reacts in a manner that I'm sure is meant to be a clue. ...clue to what I have no idea. It could be her guilt at having eaten human flesh when she lived with the Mother, but I think it was more to do with her origin, somehow. As if she was altered, --humanized? --made sentient? by some kind of blood sharing.

b sharp — 18 Mar 2009, 01:50 · follows Brian Lovely

I reread the section and there is a lot of text suggesting Babbie did attack Seawrack and mangled her arm to the point it needed amputation. But I was still struck by this passage regarding the blood Horn found on his ship:

Something had fallen back into the sea, bleeding and badly injured. What had it been? For a moment I thought of the woman I had shot, swimming league upon league after our boat, intent on revenge.....I knew such a thing was utterly impossible....

Perhaps the pirate woman is a red herring. But perhaps Horn didn't succeed in shooting her and that woman was Seawrack and she did swim after his boat for leagues and then Babbie attacked her when she first tried to get on board. And perhaps the black pirate boat was a manifestation of The Mother.

Or maybe not, maybe just a mcguffin, I dunno.

Thanks for the help all!

-bsharp

Stuart Hamm — 18 Mar 2009, 18:57 · follows b sharp

OK..

Blood transfer plays a big part I think..the Inhumani become what they are according to the blood they drink. When they were on Green and only drank the blood of animals, they were animals. They certainly became like the Neighbors when they drank their blood, and because

Kraits mother drank Sinew's blood, her son (Krait)?was very similar to Horn's son(Sinew)...although I still have a sneaking suspicion that Krait is lying here, and that it was he who drank Sinew's blood and? was...gasp...lying...

Their great secret is that if humans didn't kill each other, they wouldn't either,,,right???

Horn becomes part neighbor in the pit...the long nosed "spider" Horn sees may have given him neighbor blood...or he got it from Krait who has neighbpr blood in him (??).He-Pen-Sheep calls "Horn" "Neighbor-Man"..and HE shares blood with a beast/bear/neighbor if I'm not mistaken.So maybe that's why the Neighbor says "My name is Horn too.." because the blood/consciesnance goes both ways...

Pas/Silk/Horn

3 quills in a pen case

A beast with 3 horns

Is the Trinity too obvious for GW??I'm not a Catholic so I'm no expert..

I have a lot more ideas/questions/opinios about the SS that I'm gonna post...but I am also reminded that when i first really got into GW part of what grabbed me was truths that were nearly understandable, but took on a subversive/mythic quality...so I'm resigned and OK woth not all the answers being attainable...

~S~

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--- On Tue, 3/17/09, Brian Lovely <brian at studiobl.com> wrote:

From: Brian Lovely <brian at studiobl.com>

Subject: Re: (urth) Seawrack's Arm

To: urth at lists.urth.net

Date: Tuesday, March 17, 2009, 11:00 AM

I was never entirely sure if Babbie had actually bitten off Seawrack's arm. I HAVE, however, always been curious what that "sharing" of blood might have done to Babbie. Also, In Pajarocu, when Silk/Horn mentions blood (I think in the context of the Inhum) Seawrack reacts in a manner that I'm sure is meant to be a clue. ...clue to what I have no idea. It could be her guilt at having eaten human flesh when she lived with the Mother, but I think it was more to do with her origin, somehow. As if she was altered,

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