

Rip van Winkle

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 04 May 2010

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/5596>

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Ash Crill — 04 May 2010, 23:05

Its interesting that you mention a possible Japanese connection for Winkle. I'm only 50 pages into the book, but the initial description of Winkle makes me think of a Raccoon Dog:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tanuki>

As to Bax's familiar, Winker/Winkle suggests a link to the story of the Urashima Taro, a Japanese Rip van Winkle who went away to fairyland for a few days and returned home only to find years had passed.

Strengthening this supposition is the second half of the fox's name, Inari, which refers to a Japanese god of success & prosperity, often depicted as an old man riding a white fox.