

Autarchial Embellishments Collected

The Urth list — 4 messages, 4 voices, 07 Sep 2010

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/5738>

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Ryan Dunn — 07 Sep 2010, 21:40

I thought it would be a fun exercise, and so I have collected all off the formulaic embellishments various characters have used to refer to the Autarch over the course of The Book of the New Sun, in chronological order. It's worth noting that Jolenta tops the list with five mentions. Here you go...

..

"The Autarch...

"... whose forbearance knows not walls nor sea."
(Gurloes)

"... whose every deed is sweeter than honey in the mouths of this honorable guild." (Gurloes)

"... whose pores outshine the stars themselves."
(Jolenta)

"... whose perspiration is the gold of his subjects."
(Jolenta)

"... may he endure to see the New Sun."
(Jolenta)

"... whose hands run with gold and whose enemies kiss his heel." (Innkeep of Saltus)

"... whose thoughts are the music of his subjects."
(Alcalde)

"... whose name be thrice-blessed balm upon the scorched brows of his slaves. (Agia posing as Thecla)

"... whose urine is the wine of his subjects."
(Hethor)

"... whose dreams are our reality."
(Jolenta)

"... whose pores outshine the stars themselves."
(Jolenta)

"... whose justice is the bread of his subjects."
(Severian)

"... whose health is the happiness of his subjects."
(Dr. Talos)

"... [whose] mercy extends from sun to Sun."
(Master Palaemon)

..

...ryan

David Stockhoff — 08 Sep 2010, 02:25 · in reply to Ryan Dunn

Jolenta also has the worst metaphors: pores and perspiration. Neither one quite works; they are ludicrous.

Each one perfectly matches its user.

On 9/7/2010 5:40 PM, Ryan Dunn wrote:
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Adam Thornton — 08 Sep 2010, 02:52 · in reply to Ryan Dunn

On 09/07/2010 04:40 PM, Ryan Dunn wrote:

"The Autarch...

"... whose urine is the wine of his subjects."

(Hethor)

Man, leave it to Hethor, huh?

Adam

Jane Delawney — 09 Sep 2010, 23:58 · in reply to Ryan Dunn

Just for fun also, why not also compare and contrast this list with the effusions of Fr. Inire in his first letter to newly-minted Autarch Severian - I think these trump even Jolenta's somewhat tacky hyperbole (Hethor's is far more tacky I'd admit, but then he's a paid-up enemy of the New Sun and also a total perv, can we ignore him for the moment?)

Inire addresses Sev as follows:

"His servant Inire hails the bridegroom of the Urth

[I think this is the only point in the entire Work where the planet is referred to as 'the Urth' rather than just 'Urth'. No idea of the significance of this. However the Bridegroom metaphor is borrowed directly from the New Testament; aside from references in several parables, in the Book of Revelation the New Jerusalem is the Bride, and Christ Himself is Bridegroom.]

"Master of Nessus and the House Absolute

[Well yes of course; along with the throne, Sev has inherited the words of mastery from his predecessor]

"Chief of his Race

[Here Inire apparently recognises Severian in advance as the Epitome, though we don't know whether he uses the phrase as a courtesy title or whether, as a Hierodule, he truly has advance knowledge of Severian's destiny]

"Gold of his people, Messenger of Dawn

[The name of the renewed Urth, Ushas, is that of the Hindu Goddess of Dawn, Ushas; and in view of what transpires, Severian is truly Her messenger. And the 'Gold' metaphor echoes one of Jolenta's effusions, unfortunately one of the tackier ones!]

"Helios

[Greek Sun God name, Severian as Apollo]

"Hyperion

[In Greek mythology, the son of Gaia and Ouranos; also referred to in mythology as Helios-Hyperion, the High One of the Sun. Homeric writings refer to a Helios Hyperionoides - the Sun, Son of Hyperion. All entirely appropriate for the New Sun.]

"Surya

[Hindu sun/weather-god; his symbol is the thunderbolt (vajra - dorje in Tibetan usage). This god-name is also the linguistic cognate of the Scandinavian Thor / eastern European Perun - not inappropriate given our Sev's later-proven ability to quieten the storm. Jesus on the Sea of Galilee also exhibits Thor-like capabilities]

"Savitar

[The name of a Vedic solar deity, interestingly in the context of BOTNS, in the Vedic hymns He is a beneficent Deity and as He extends His arms, the Dawn - Ushas - extends Her light.]

"and Autarch!"

well of course :)

JD

On 07/09/10 22:40, Ryan Dunn wrote:

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