

Inhumi and devils

The Urth list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 30 Nov 2010

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Andrew Mason — 30 Nov 2010, 18:52

James Wynn wrote:

A daemon, note the spelling, is merely a disembodied spirit. Inhumi contain the spirits of others, living and dead. Mucor, at times, meets this criteria. Also, an important theme in the book is that if a demon imitates a god, he becomes, in some sense, a god. Quetzal becomes a holy man, sacrificing his life for his flock. Horn becomes Silk. Inhumi become, in a metaphysical sense, Horn's son and Silk's sister.

OK, so there's a thematic similarity between inhumi and devils, which makes it appropriate that Pike called them that. But if I am reading you rightly, the inhumi as Pike knows them - creatures which fly in through windows and suck blood - don't possess people; rather they are themselves in a sense possessed by the spirits of others whom they have absorbed. (Bear in mind I haven't read Short Sun yet, so don't know the details.) I still think it's unlikely the chasmologic writers has inhumi in mind.

James Wynn — 30 Nov 2010, 19:30 · in reply to Andrew Mason

Andrew Mason-

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Well, the inhumi are "demonic" but the C. writings are an accumulation of mythology, the Odyssey, the Gospels, Islamic tradition, and other writings. So, I agree that it is unnecessary to ascribe inhumi as the original source of demons. They merely fit the Type.

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