

Atlantis and Gondwanaland

The Urth list — 31 messages, 12 voices, 03 Jan 2011

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/5867>

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Lee Berman — 03 Jan 2011, 03:51

Perusing the text to respond to Gerry's post, I found an interesting section. During their lessons, David is peeking at "Polyphemus, The Cyclops and Odysseus". This story involves blinding the giant and tricking him by pretending Odysseus' name is "Noman". Sort of a stretch but I wonder if this could hint that all involved (even Dr. Veil) are blind to the fact that they are not men. If not that, it must connote something.

Anyway, the main thing is that during this lesson, Number Five says he glosses upon "the Etruscans, Atlantis, and the tenacity and expansionist tendencies of a hypothetical technological culture occupying Gondwanaland".

As has been discussed a couple times in the past year, the Old Wise One Shadow Child provides the rather impossible list of possible home nations on earth as, "Atlantis or Mu-- or Gondwanaland, Africa, Poictesme, or The Country Of Friends."

What might be the connection between these two references?

David Stockhoff — 03 Jan 2011, 13:24 · in reply to Lee Berman

There are a few thoughts that I had on reading FHOC and I have not moved forward much from them:

(1) The Shadow Children preceded us on Earth, having left Earth before we evolved. We may be their descendants.

(2) #1, but as an in-joke.

(3) The possibility of #1 is meant to make us imagine sharing a planet with a closely-related species, or fairies, or whatever, i.e., induce a sort of disorienting paranoia about our own identity as humans. (As you suggest for David et al.)

(4) He doesn't know what he's talking about. He's just repeating myths---literary ones that are becoming "real" ones. Perhaps he got them from reading human minds or something.

(5) All these are meant to make us question what we think we know.

On 1/2/2011 10:51 PM, Lee Berman wrote:

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Lee Berman — 03 Jan 2011, 14:31 · follows David Stockhoff

David Stockhoff:

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- (5) All these are meant to make us question what we think we know.

Damn David! I ask for a light and you give me the sun. This may be all we need to know, not only about 5HoC but perhaps about Inhum, the malevolent presences on Urth, maybe an Evil Guest? Maybe everything?

#5 (heh) goes without saying. But #1 and #3 are really insightful and seem to have global impact on the lupine universe(s). Jeff doesn't like global impact ideas, but I do.

No time now but these ideas are worth exploring in depth, (to the point of tossing out some of my previous ideas).

DAVID STOCKHOFF — 03 Jan 2011, 15:35 · in reply to Lee Berman

Of course I meant them in a limited sense (i.e., limited to Fifth Head), but they do seem to recur in Wolfe. I'd relate them to his general idea about myths, how ancient myths reflect attempts by intelligent people to understand the world and approach divinity, etc. Stories we tell ourselves about who-came-before are all grist for Wolfe's mill, or meat for his fangs, or

In other words, I wouldn't go so far as to say Wolfe thinks giants (or shadows) did once roam the earth, or that they did on Urth, or that they did on Blue, etc. Just that we humans always talk about such ideas and they hold---and generate---meaning for us. (Incidentally, have you ever noticed how sickeningly popular prophecies are in Hollywood and cheap fiction? Wolfe shows comparatively little interest in them---he prefers myths about the past.)

I just read Margaret Atwood's latest novel, Year of the Flood. She says (probably quoting Plato by way of someone else) "All religion is a shadow of God, and shadows of God are not God." I think Wolfe agrees, and this lets him play with myths while suggesting that they hold truth along with lies (both "true" lies and false ones).

--- On Mon, 1/3/11, Lee Berman <severiansola at hotmail.com> wrote:

From: Lee Berman <severiansola at hotmail.com>

Subject: (urth) Atlantis and Gondwanaland

To: urth at lists.urth.net

Date: Monday, January 3, 2011, 9:31 AM

David Stockhoff:

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No time now but these ideas are worth exploring in depth, (to the point of tossing out some of my previous ideas). ? ??? ????????? ?????? ??? ?

Marc Aramini — 03 Jan 2011, 15:35 · in reply to Lee Berman

Wanted to see if anyone was prepared to discuss something symbolic and its connotations, and this is not part of a "theory" so hopefully it won't engender something atrocious.

Vodulus hands Severian his little fake coin for killing an innocent man trying to prevent the remains of his family from being stolen and eaten and saving a cannibal (nevermind for now that the autarch is also a cannibal).

Then Sev goes on to talk about how symbols shape us. When Talos comes at the end of New Sun to give Sev the coin he owes him, its? a fake, as is the one Vodulus gave him. In light of saying that we are shaped by symbols, is the fake coin of Vodulus important for making a statement about Severian himself or not? Is Wolfe implying that the fake coin, which he admits in Castle of Days is a symbol of the sun, shaped Sev into something genuine? (I think this reading is re-inforced by the themes in Wolfe's later fiction, BUT i have some doubts here.)? Severian was paid in counterfeit coin for killing a man and saving an unworthy master and later Severian muses it must be worth it to preserve the high and the low in man at the end of Citadel, I think, where he talks about punishing the torturers so they appreciate their position. Does that fake coin imply the situation of the sun is a conjuror's trick at best, serving a false master and killing an innocent man to pillage the remains of Urth? (ie - is the situation of the fake coin in parrallel with the future sun of Urth and the ambiguous Vodulus, what was his title? Liege of Leaves?)? Does?Sev's musings on the necessity of the high and the low at the end of Citadel work against the result in Urth of the New Sun where high and low together are wiped out?

Hopefully there is something to discuss there.

DAVID STOCKHOFF — 03 Jan 2011, 15:44 · in reply to Marc Aramini

You mean aside from your medieval prejudice against cannibalism?
More seriously, I question whether anything on Urth is high. Can you give an example?
And I would theorize that nothing is truly fake in Wolfe. This ties to my current thread with Lee and a topic I return to often: all myths are more or less true. All lies contain truth. As fake as Vodalus and the coin and the autarch and the Commonwealth and the games of the Hieros are---all of them, in every sense and on every level---they are also real and true. Or so my theory forces me to conclude.
The open question is what that means.

--- On Mon, 1/3/11, Marc Aramini <marcaramini at yahoo.com> wrote:

From: Marc Aramini <marcaramini at yahoo.com>
Subject: (urth) a false coin
To: "The Urth Mailing List" <urth at lists.urth.net>
Date: Monday, January 3, 2011, 10:35 AM

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Does that fake coin imply the situation of the sun is a conjuror's trick at best, serving a false master and killing an innocent man to pillage the remains of Urth? (ie - is the situation of the fake coin in parrallel with the future sun of Urth and the ambiguous Vodalus, what was his title? Liege of Leaves?)? Does?Sev's musings on the necessity of the high and the low at the end of Citadel work against the result in Urth of the New Sun where high and low together are wiped out?

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Adam Thornton IO — 03 Jan 2011, 16:17 · in reply to Marc Aramini

On Mon, 3 Jan 2011 07:35:39 -0800 (PST), Marc Aramini
<marcaramini at yahoo.com> wrote:

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at best, serving a false master and killing an innocent man to pillage
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A slightly more hopeful reading would be more along the lines of "we become what we imitate."

Adam

Lee Berman — 03 Jan 2011, 17:31 · follows Adam Thornton IO

Marc Aramini: Is Wolfe implying that the fake coin, which he admits in Castle of Days is a symbol of the sun, shaped Sev into something genuine?.....Does that fake coin imply the situation of the sun is a conjuror's trick at best, serving a false master and killing an innocent man to pillage the remains of Urth?

I think this is a very astute assessment of a symbol. It might disturb some, though.

David Stockhoff: And I would theorize that nothing is truly fake in Wolfe. This ties to my current thread with Lee and a topic I return to often: all myths are more or less true. All lies contain truth. As fake as Vodalus and the coin and the autarch and the Commonwealth and the games of the Hieros are---all of them, in every sense and on every level---they are also real and true. Or so my theory forces me to conclude. The open question is what that means.

I agree with David but I would add the complementary balance: All truth contains lies. All reality is partially based on myth and personal bias. Tao/Ouroboros symbol. A bit of evil in all good things and a bit of good in all evil things.

Thus Severian's godhood and immortality based on the gift of a star from the angels is transitory. He loses that power as soon as it serves their purpose. His more enduring godhood comes as a gift from the "demonic" undine.

[p.s. David, I was reminded of an addition to our discussion of "Author as Demiurge": Gene Wolfe's home address on St. Croix is 666 Saltimbanque St.- the Satanic Performer]

Son of Witz — 03 Jan 2011, 17:33 · in reply to Adam Thornton IO

On Jan 3, 2011, at 8:17 AM, "Adam Thornton (IO)" <adam at io.com> wrote:

On Mon, 3 Jan 2011 07:35:39 -0800 (PST), Marc Aramini <marcaramini at yahoo.com> wrote:

Does that fake coin imply the situation of the sun is a conjuror's trick at best, serving a false master and killing an innocent man to pillage the remains of Urth? (ie - is the situation of the fake coin in parrallel with the future sun of Urth and the ambiguous Vodalus, what was his title?

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Adam

Flato recently answered my "What the hell is the purpose of the false coin." question pretty well, I think.

Severian has blasted through oaths and allegiances as he "backed into the throne." The false coin comes to light when he is Autarch. It is a reminder that the Autarchy itself is false gold, ie, being Autarch is not the big goal for Severian.

Works well.

Jordon Flato — 03 Jan 2011, 17:35 · in reply to Adam Thornton IO

I was talking over this exact thing with Witz the other day. Witz and I are both of the mind that there is a progressive movement in Severian's Character toward giving allegiance to a higher and higher source as the book moves forward, or maybe is shedding layers of earthly allegiance and discovering a real impulse toward the increate. I think there are a lot of examples of this throughout the books. Early on, Severian receives the coin, as you say, from Vodalus, whom he internally vows to serve from that point on. And arguably that choice sets him on his path toward the throne.

So not having attained the throne, reached the pinnacle of earthly power, where many would be more than satisfied, he's given another coin, which reminds him of that first coin, but which at this point he recognizes (is told) is counterfeit. For me, I see this as a final symbol of Severian being reminded, through symbol, that the Autarchy isn't his final purpose, that he serves something higher. I'm running short on time right now, so I can't go into this more subtly, and I think there is more there to say.

On Mon, Jan 3, 2011 at 8:17 AM, Adam Thornton (IO) <adam at io.com> wrote:

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Adam

Gerry Quinn — 03 Jan 2011, 18:10 · in reply to Lee Berman

From: "Lee Berman" <severiansola at hotmail.com>

I agree with David but I would add the complementary balance: All truth contains lies. All reality

is partially based on myth and personal bias. Tao/Ouroboros symbol.

So why the insistence that this must not apply to Veil's Hypothesis?

- Gerry Quinn

DAVID STOCKHOFF — 03 Jan 2011, 18:21 · in reply to Lee Berman

How would you see that? Perhaps you are thinking of the author as acrobat or mountebank (that is, a hint that Wolfe is playing the trickster), but it could also mean that the existence of true evil is false: evil is a performance.

or is evil in the act and not the intent? that might be overthinking.

--- On Mon, 1/3/11, Lee Berman <severiansola at hotmail.com> wrote:

From: Lee Berman <severiansola at hotmail.com>

Subject: (urth) a false coin

To: urth at lists.urth.net

Date: Monday, January 3, 2011, 12:31 PM

[p.s. David, I was reminded of an addition to our discussion of "Author as Demiurge": Gene Wolfe's home address on St. Croix is 666 Saltimbanque St.- the Satanic Performer]

DAVID STOCKHOFF — 03 Jan 2011, 18:23 · in reply to Son of Witz

Being Autarch is a negative MacGuffin!

--- On Mon, 1/3/11, Son of Witz <Sonofwitz at butcherbaker.org> wrote:

From: Son of Witz <Sonofwitz at butcherbaker.org>

Subject: Re: (urth) a false coin

Lee Berman — 03 Jan 2011, 18:59 · follows DAVID STOCKHOFF

David Stockhoff: Well, you're consistent, Lee. ;) I wonder if "There is something essentially evil in the essence of Creation." I think certainly there is something essentially evil in the essence of Man. These are related but different; one calls for a Devil and the other does not. I do not believe in an eternal Evil and I do not think Wolfe does either.

We we on earth don't have any other Creations to compare to. (hmm..Gondwanaland predates the evolution of primates but I wonder if Wolfe thinks it corresponds with the evolution of consciousness. Surely evil is partly based on this attribute...nah, I guess not. If you are religious, you believe consciousness and intelligence predate the appearance of humanity..)

Anyway, my suggestion of the universal evil inherent in Creation can be found on Blue/Green. Isn't there evidence that the evil of the Inhumans/Neighbors predates the appearance of human beings there?

Of course this is balanced by the Whorl which is a Creation of an ostensibly pure evil guy and his nasty family of monsters but ends up having elements of good keep asserting themselves. Heck they can't even sustain human sacrifice!

Lee Berman — 03 Jan 2011, 19:10 · follows DAVID STOCKHOFF

Gerry Quinn: So why the insistence that this must not apply to Veil's Hypothesis?

See my last post. (and remember I am playing a role)

David, I was reminded of an addition to our discussion of "Author as Demiurge": Gene Wolfe's home address on St. Croix is 666 Saltimbanque St.- the Satanic Performer

David Stockhoff- How would you see that? Perhaps you are thinking of the author as acrobat or mountebank (that is, a hint that Wolfe is playing the trickster), but it could also mean that the existence of true evil is false: evil is a performance. or is evil in the act and not the intent? that might be overthinking.

No, not overthinking. Entirely and directly to the point, I think. We on this list have focused on the principle of feigning goodness long enough that it becomes the truth. What about the reverse? If someone feigns evil for long enough they become evil.

I am suggesting that Lucifer and Judas might be considered the truest and most faithful companions of God and Jesus because they faithfully carried out their necessary roles, knowing what it would do to them. What it would make them become.

SPOILER (for movie fans)

Just as we learn Severus Snape was Dumbledore's most faithful, trusted ally. More so even than Harry Potter. Rowling may not be a Wolfe but she has certain mythological and story-telling principles solidly in place.

Jerry Friedman — 03 Jan 2011, 21:55 · in reply to DAVID STOCKHOFF

I'm sure I've read that 666 is a hint that the Gene Wolfes, having egotistically cut themselves off from humanity by cloning, could become the Beast. The author's use of his own name suggests that he and everyone have this evil potential. And yes, maybe that some acts are evil regardless of intent.

I believe this, and I'd thought it was widely believed, but maybe I generalized from one reader to all.

If I'd been alert enough when that guy asked for interview questions, my first suggestion would have been how Wolfe feels about cloning now that it is or may soon be possible, and in light of the possibility that Chris in Pirate Freedom was cloned. (My next suggestion would have been about torture.)

Jerry Friedman is sure that "saltimbanque", meaning "clown", couldn't possibly be a clown-clone pun, because that would be beneath Wolfe. Not.

David Stockhoff — 03 Jan 2011, 22:13 · in reply to Lee Berman

I guess I'm thinking of a conscious Eternal Evil, not one that says "I am Evil" but one that, like Satan in Paradise Lost, is self-pitying and prideful and jealous and will do anything to gain power over others, even destroying the world so no one else can rule it. I don't think this kind of evil exists, because there is enough stupidity and callous ignorance in the world to explain all the symptoms of Eternal Evil. (Occam's Parsimonious Razor.)

The evil we see in Wolfe is human and rational (usually---you could make a case for the woman who turns her children into furniture). His characters are often ordinary people trying not to do evil, and who know the chance for evil lies within themselves. Those characters who do evil are

often specifically described by Severian as being no or little worse than others who succeed in avoiding doing evil---just a little hungrier or more desperate. Baldanders' cruel experiments are an exception, but even he is not a devil; he does nothing to humans he would not do to himself. Typhon may have superpowers, but if he doesn't, the evil of his empire lies in his servants, not himself.

Occasionally, evil is distant and ambiguous. We may think of Cthulhu when we read of Abaia and Erebus, but isn't he really just a large hungry alien? It's not his fault if humans will betray other humans to supply him with dinner or if his emanations give sensitive people nightmares. While these creatures may be evil in the sense of being mostly appetite---and having no interest in the divine spark of humanity---whose intelligence goes toward luring prey the way a deep-sea fish lures smaller fish or a spider builds a web, I get no sense that these beings are any different. Just bigger and capable of defeating and eating humans.

Evil requires rationality. The Neighbors, being sentient, are therefore capable of evil.

On 1/3/2011 1:59 PM, Lee Berman wrote:

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David Stockhoff — 03 Jan 2011, 22:15 · in reply to Lee Berman

I agree with this:

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On 1/3/2011 2:10 PM, Lee Berman wrote:

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I am suggesting that Lucifer and Judas might be considered the truest and most faithful companions of God and Jesus because they faithfully carried out their necessary roles, knowing what it would do to them. What it would make them become.

David Duffy — 03 Jan 2011, 23:04 · in reply to David Stockhoff

On Mon, 3 Jan 2011, David Stockhoff wrote:

There are a few thoughts that I had on reading FHOC and I have not moved forward much from them:

(1) The Shadow Children preceded us on Earth, having left Earth before we evolved. We may be their descendants.

...

Castleview has the same ...problems... Eg Excalibor is from the exploded planet between Mars and Jupiter, Mr Fee has three pairs of eyes and pipestem limbs, von Madadh is flanked by a group of near human apes.

Cheers, David Duffy.

Marc Aramini — 03 Jan 2011, 23:25 · in reply to David Stockhoff

Argh, nobody called me out on my blatant apophysis here. Have it your way!

when I wrote:

?is not part of a "theory" so hopefully

?Severian was paid in counterfeit coin for killing a man and saving an unworthy master

Does that fake coin imply the situation of the sun is a conjuror's trick at best, serving a false master and killing an innocent man to pillage the remains of Urth? (ie - is the situation of the fake coin in parrallel with the future sun of Urth and the ambiguous Vodalus, what was his title? LIEGE OF LEAVES?)?

Lee Berman — 04 Jan 2011, 01:27 · follows Jerry Friedman

Jerry Friedman: Jerry Friedman is sure that "saltimbanque", meaning "clown", couldn't possibly be a clown-clone pun, because that would be beneath Wolfe. Not.

Erm..are we talking about the Gene Wolfe who wears a Texas bolo tie, a Chicago moustache and quotes Roger Rabbit and enjoys Pinnochio, the Disney movie? Some here have attempted to paint Gene Wolfe as an academic elitist, divorced from pop culture and cheap humor. I think they succeed only in painting themselves that color.

Anyway, clown might be a pun on clone. But since Gene Wolfe inserts his name into the story as an author, I lean toward the "saltimbanque" interpretation as performer/trickster. With the not- so-subtle allusion to The Great Deceiver. But could be all of the above.

Lee Berman — 04 Jan 2011, 01:41 · follows David Duffy

David Stockhoff-The evil we see in Wolfe is human and rational.

There is a lot of argument for this view. I don't want to deny its merit. Still, Wolfe is a religious guy. A Christian/Catholic. In the Bible, which came first Adam or evil? (Serpent? Satan?)

(or if you want evolution, did evil really originate in Homo sapiens?
is there not the significant rudiments of rationality to be seen in our primate and cetacean
cousins? Many experiments demonstrate an ethical sense among them and other simpler
animals too...take Fido..)

There are the Neighbors as you mention. Rational. So they have an evil side. But weren't they
pretty good guys until they went to Green?

I get the feeling Wolfe is saying that the "evil in the hearts of
rational men" isn't all there is to the story. I just have the intuition he thinks there is an outside
presence which will tend to bring out this evil tendency in our hearts when put in the right
location/circumstances.

Tony Ellis — 04 Jan 2011, 10:51 · follows Lee Berman

Gerry Quinn wrote:

Of course these possibilities are for the most part absurd (except for
Africa, I guess) - it is pretty clearly established that the Shadow Children
are the descendants of human star travellers who arrived a century before
the French colonists. ?They have forgotten the name of their original home
(though they remember where it is and point out Sol in the sky). ?Wolfe
whimsically has them remember some of the same names mentioned by the
narrator of the first novel. The names also serve as an additional
demonstration that they originate from our own culture or a successor, for
only such a culture would know the names Atlantis and Gondwanaland.

Actually, it's not as clear cut as that. The Old Wise One says:

"we also hear the mind-singing of our brothers - who do not sing - as they pass up and down
between the stars... these thoughts come into our songs. It is possible that our home was
named Atlantis of Mu - Gondwanaland, Africa, Poictesme or The Country of Friends."

In other words, the telepathic Shadow Children are dipping into the minds of passing starship
crews to get these names. And presumably looking in the folder labelled 'lost lands' or 'human
origins'.

They don't necessarily 'remember' these names because they are the descendants of former
colonists. They could be what they appear to be: telepathic, indigenous aliens with a hive mind.

Dan'l Danehy-Oakes — 04 Jan 2011, 17:03 · in reply to Tony Ellis

On Tue, Jan 4, 2011 at 2:51 AM, Tony Ellis <tonyellis69 at btopenworld.com> wrote:

"we also hear the mind-singing of our brothers - who do not sing - as
they pass up and down between the stars... these thoughts come into
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minds of passing starship crews to get these names. And presumably
looking in the folder labelled 'lost lands' or 'human origins'.

There is another interpretation available from this quotation: that the Shadow Children,
telepathic, are descended from a race that was
not telepathic, and travels between the stars. Whether or not this race originated on Earth (in

Atlantis, Mu, etc.), it is a race that humans have not yet encountered.

That's how I read it anyway. Whether the O.W.O. is telling the truth (as he knows it) or not is another question.

Dan'I Danehy-Oakes

Lee Berman — 04 Jan 2011, 17:53 · follows Dan'I Danehy-Oakes

Dan'I Danehy-Oakes: There is another interpretation available from this quotation: that the Shadow Children, telepathic, are descended from a race that was_not_ telepathic, and travels between the stars. Whether or not this race originated on Earth (in Atlantis, Mu, etc.), it is a race that humans have not yet encountered.

Sounds a bit similar to David's ideas about an ancient race on earth of pixies, fairies or whatever they might be (Tzadkiel clones?). I kinda like my suggestion too in regard to such nasty, imitative, parasitic things being an essential part of creation (especially if the creator is a demiurge).

To me they all seem to have equal merit in the face of a contradictory, confusing text. Will be interesting to see what criteria Tony uses to make his selection as "best".

Gerry Quinn — 04 Jan 2011, 18:41 · in reply to Tony Ellis

From: "Tony Ellis" <tonyellis69 at btopenworld.com>

Gerry Quinn wrote:

Of course these possibilities are for the most part absurd (except for Africa, I guess) - it is pretty clearly established that the Shadow Children

are the descendants of human star travellers who arrived a century before

the French colonists. They have forgotten the name of their original home

(though they remember where it is and point out Sol in the sky). Wolfe whimsically has them remember some of the same names mentioned by the narrator of the first novel. The names also serve as an additional demonstration that they originate from our own culture or a successor, for

only such a culture would know the names Atlantis and Gondwanaland.

Actually, it's not as clear cut as that. The Old Wise One says:

"we also hear the mind-singing of our brothers - who do not sing - as they pass up and down between the stars... these thoughts come into our songs. It is possible that our home was named Atlantis of Mu - Gondwanaland, Africa, Poictesme or The Country of Friends."

In other words, the telepathic Shadow Children are dipping into the minds of passing starship crews to get these names. And presumably looking in the folder labelled 'lost lands' or 'human origins'.

They don't necessarily 'remember' these names because they are the descendants of former colonists. They could be what they appear to be: telepathic, indigenous aliens with a hive mind.

Fair enough point about the source of the names. But they do refer to the passers-by as their brothers. Aliens *might* say that of humans, but it would be a bit insulting to Sandwalker ;-)

They also say "It is a long time since we took a Shadowfriend from among the native

population."

I think Shadow Children as degenerate humans is the only reading that does not have very serious problems.

- Gerry Quinn

Tony Ellis — 04 Jan 2011, 20:00 · follows Gerry Quinn

Gerry Quinn wrote:

Fair enough point about the source of the names. ?But they do refer to the passers-by as their brothers. ?Aliens *might* say that of humans, but it would be a bit insulting to Sandwalker ;-)

They also say "It is a long time since we took a Shadowfriend from among the native population."

They also say "'we are taller than you, and stronger. And wrapped in terrible glory... our glance withers, and we sing death to our enemies."

None of this is true. The reality, as Sandwalker muses, is that they are bent and weak and ill-looking, and run from men.

The Shadow Children are crackheaded fantasists. They like to *think* they are the humans. Later it is the Old Wise One himself who rebuts this.

My reading is that it would be quite natural for a race of telepathic, emphatic shapechangers to mistakenly believe that they are the thing they have tried to imitate.

Lee Berman — 04 Jan 2011, 20:43 · follows Tony Ellis

Tony Ellis: They also say "'we are taller than you, and stronger. And wrapped in terrible glory ... our glance withers, and we sing death to our enemies.'"None of this is true. The reality, as Sandwalker muses, is that they are bent and weak and ill-looking, and run from men.

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Seems like pretty good arguments for Shadow Children to be native to Ste. Anne. I think James might agree. But Gerry says his conclusion is the best. What am I supposed to do? Ignore someone and latch onto the other? The agony. Surely one of these "best" has to be the obvious and clear best. Doesn't it?

I mean, there is no possible way elements of both could be true. Is there?

antonio at gmail.com — 04 Jan 2011, 21:08 · in reply to Lee Berman

No dia 2011/01/04, ?s 20:43, Lee Berman <severiansola at hotmail.com> escreveu:

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I suppose this is rhetorical, but I'll bite: Eurth is St Croix.

Lee Berman — 04 Jan 2011, 21:24 · follows entonio at gmail.com

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I suppose this is rhetorical, but I'll bite: Eurth is St Croix.

Yes, rhetorical. And you are bad Antonio. Very very bad! ;-).

Anyway, I think some of the ideas David and I threw back and forth incorporate elements of both.

David Stockhoff — 05 Jan 2011, 00:28 · in reply to Tony Ellis

Nice! Yes, that line has the ring of a poet singing about his own ancestors.

On 1/4/2011 3:00 PM, Tony Ellis wrote:

Gerry Quinn wrote:

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