

Buy! Analogy!

The Urth list — 4 messages, 4 voices, 19 Feb 2011

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/5976>

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Adam Thornton — 19 Feb 2011, 19:07

So, and I want to preface this by stating that I am NOT on mushrooms, we've often been able to find promising lines of inquiry into Wolfe's work by looking at what books HE likes and then finding their echoes in the things we're studying.

Recently we've been (or at least I've been) thinking a lot about Borges in the context of Ultan, the books of _BotNS_, etc.

But this morning it occurred to me that there might be an elephant in the room we're missing.

Is there any way to stretch a consistent analogy to _BotNS_ from....

wait for it....

The Wizard of Oz ?

We have Severian as Dorothy, obviously, and Triskele as a present-only-in-spirit Toto. Jonas is certainly the Tin Woodsman. Baldanders might be the Cowardly Lion and Talos the Scarecrow (that doesn't seem to work, quite). The Wizard: the Autarch or Inire? I can't decide. Don't forget that "Oz" stands for "Oscar Zoroaster." The Agia/Agilus twins as the Wicked Witches, East and West? Or is Vodalus the W.W.W. ? Hmmm. This is getting less convincing, isn't it? Time to change the subject:

The Silver (Ruby if you're playing along on the Technicolor version) Slippers? The ones whose power, it turns out, was inside Dorothy the whole time? Does this sound like any well-known artifact in the books?

Yeah, this probably doesn't work.

Adam

David Stockhoff — 19 Feb 2011, 19:57 · in reply to Adam Thornton

I don't think it's crazy. You don't need to find 100% correspondence. There is no doubt, for example, but that Jonas is "a" Tin Man or a descendant of him.

On 2/19/2011 2:07 PM, Adam Thornton wrote:

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Andrew Mason — 19 Feb 2011, 22:24 · follows David Stockhoff

David Stockhoff wrote:

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Though it's a reversal of the original story; the Tin Man started off human and became tin, while Jonas started off tin and became partly human.

Dan'I Danehy-Oakes — 20 Feb 2011, 03:59 · in reply to Andrew Mason

Andrew Mason wrote:

I don't think it's crazy. You don't need to find 100% correspondence. There is no doubt, for example, but that Jonas is "a" Tin Man or a descendant of him.

Though it's a reversal of the original story; the Tin Man started off human and became tin, while Jonas started off tin and became partly human.

Also, the Tin Woodman (proper name of the character, if you please) wishes for a heart, while Jonas is deeply, passionately in love, or perhaps lust.

Dan'I Danehy-Oakes