

Ash

The Urth list — 3 messages, 3 voices, 13 Sep 2013

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/6437>

Exported from an unofficial mirror of a public mailing list. Copyright in each message remains with the person who wrote it. Email addresses are obscured as `user at host`, the form the original archive published. This file was rebuilt from parsed fields rather than retained headers, so it is faithful in content but not byte-exact.

Lee Berman — 13 Sep 2013, 20:00

I've long wondered about the significance of the name of Master Ash and his cryptic reference to Vine.

I've found one likely reference in Norse mythology, in which the first man and woman were named Ask and Embla, which translate in English to ash tree and elm tree, but alternatively Embla can be vine or liana. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ask_and_Embla

Given Ash's association with Ragnarok, Norse seems like a likely source.

But I just bumped into a tantalizing alternative. One of the most ancient Egyptian gods was named Ash, and as god of the desert oases, he was also the god of the vine. As a desert god he was also associated (sometimes sexually) with Typhon Set, the god of desert storms.

I guess I still think the Norse inspiration is mostly likely the primary one. But it is hard to dismiss a nominative clue which relates to both Typhon and The Outsider/Dionysus.

Dan'l Danehy-Oakes — 13 Sep 2013, 20:06 · in reply to Lee Berman

Embrace the power of "and."

On Fri, Sep 13, 2013 at 1:00 PM, Lee Berman <severiansola at hotmail.com> wrote:
I've long wondered about the significance of the name of Master Ash and his cryptic reference to Vine.

I've found one likely reference in Norse mythology, in which the first man and woman were named Ask and Embla, which translate in English to ash tree and elm tree, but alternatively Embla can be vine or liana.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ask_and_Embla

Given Ash's association with Ragnarok, Norse seems like a likely source.

But I just bumped into a tantalizing alternative. One of the most ancient Egyptian gods was named Ash, and as god of the desert oases, he was also the
god of the vine. As a desert god he was also associated (sometimes sexually)
with Typhon Set, the god of desert storms.

I guess I still think the Norse inspiration is mostly likely the primary one. But it is hard to dismiss a nominative clue which relates to both Typhon and The Outsider/Dionysus.

Andrew Mason — 27 Sep 2013, 20:22 · follows Dan'l Danehy-Oakes

I've long wondered about the significance of the name of Master Ash and his cryptic reference to Vine.

I've found one likely reference in Norse mythology, in which the first man and woman were named Ask and Embla, which translate in English to ash tree and elm tree, but alternatively Embla can be vine or liana.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ask_and_Embla

Given Ash's association with Ragnarok, Norse seems like a likely source.

But I just bumped into a tantalizing alternative. One of the most ancient Egyptian gods was named Ash, and as god of the desert oases, he was also the god of the vine. As a desert god he was also associated (sometimes sexually) with Typhon Set, the god of desert storms.

I guess I still think the Norse inspiration is mostly likely the primary one. But it is hard to dismiss a nominative clue which relates to both Typhon and The Outsider/Dionysus.

Wolfe has actually said in Castle of the Otter that he intended the Norse reference, though of course this does not rule out other references as well.