

Any strong defenders/defenses of LAND ACROSS?

The Urth list — 5 messages, 1 voices, 16 Jan 2015

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/6709>

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David Stockhoff — 16 Jan 2015, 00:58

I sometimes fear that to understand Wolfe, I will have to read everything.

On 12/23/2014 7:16 PM, David Duffy wrote:

On Tue, 23 Dec 2014, Nick Lee wrote:

This discussion has turned my attention back to the Land Across and my old

notes. I'd originally intended to write a series of essays on TLA but lost

the time and will. What follows is a summary of my thoughts after I read the book and did some research just after it was released. I've just added

many paragraphs from memory. I've lost some of my notes. I'd post it directly to the list, but I hate what it does to my formatting.

<https://vagueshrine.wordpress.com/2014/12/23/the-land-across/>

Very interesting. A review of the Eliades book mentions:

'In chapter 1, "The Dacians and Wolves", the author adduces substantial evidence...of the original meaning "wolf" for the tribe name "Daci", which places this group in the line of peoples who considered a blue or grau she-wolf their mythical ancestor. This is substantiated by a number of valuable observations on the role of the wolf... and werewolves.'

David Stockhoff — 16 Jan 2015, 01:20 · follows David Stockhoff

On 12/24/2014 1:51 AM, David Duffy wrote:

Sorry to be boring. The helpful man in black with his wolves partakes of lots of different mythologies, but specifically in Slavic folktales there is the Wolf-Shepherd, who is both Master of the Wolves and protector of cattle. He is identified with several saints (SS George, Martin...) and appears especially in the wolf holidays: Nov 1, 2, 11, and the twelve nights of Christmas ("wolf nights"). He summons and dismisses wolves around pasturing season, and is a healer...(from Supernatural beings from Slovenian myth and folktales By Monika Kropelj).

If this is boring, please continue to be boring!

I initially thought the man with burning eyes might be the ghost of Vlad the Impaler or something, because the small man associates Vlad with the lake house, which is haunted by a

man with burning eyes (p49-50). But your interpretation better fits his behavior. That conversation also touched on demons, fairies, cherubim, and bells.

The character who drives me crazy is the Leader, who appears to project himself, eidolon-like, only where he is needed. Can werewolves do this? Is he Zalmoxis?

David Stockhoff — 16 Jan 2015, 01:22 · follows David Stockhoff

On 12/24/2014 12:43 AM, David Duffy wrote:

More googling about Eliade brings up his links in the 1930-40s with the Legion of the Archangel Michael (Iron Guard, Romanian Nazi Party). They took up Zalmoxis as a precursor of Christianity, and sought "a Christian revolution, a spiritual, ascetic, manly revolution". I think others have suggested they might be a model for the Legion of Light, or possibly for the current government.

Cheers, David Duffy

PS re transliterated Greek words Mousukos <- Mousikos

PPS Why does Grafton dislike the sound of the glass bell the Archbishop rings?

Bells seem to be associated with the Fee and cherubs (p50). Grafton may be linked with beings opposed to them, again perhaps werewolves. The Master seems to like him.

This actually makes Grafton a bit like Latro, IIRC.

David Stockhoff — 16 Jan 2015, 01:38 · follows David Stockhoff

On 12/22/2014 11:54 PM, Nick Lee wrote:

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I'd guess that Paraustays means something more like "beyond regret." Dead, in other words.

David Stockhoff — 16 Jan 2015, 01:53 · follows David Stockhoff

On 12/18/2014 4:25 PM, Greg Kurzawa wrote:

4. The Archbishop was not the Undead Dragon.
5. Grafton pushed the Archbishop from the tower, but it wasn't the real Archbishop.
6. The Archbishop (at the time he "jumped" from the tower) was an Imprint Doll.
7. (I like this one) The Russ that Grafton met in prison was actually an Imprint Doll, probably the very same Doll that "jumped" from the tower.

Greg

The imprint dolls are a pain, like playing with a deck full of wild cards. I guess we need to look

for anything out of the ordinary, just as in a Wolf novel with androids.

(1) When the archbishop dies, there is a small bit of blood: "a tiny dot of red."

(2) The archbishop moves "a lot faster than I would have thought a man his age could."

(3) "People in movies scream all the way down," but "He did not make a single sound until he hit."

Very ambiguous. Unfortunately, I don't think we have a good idea of how the dolls behave, nor how the Undead Dragon would behave. The guy seemed pretty much like an old archbishop to me.