

# the odal rune in Sorcerer's House

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 19 Feb 2018

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/6779>

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Marc Aramini — 19 Feb 2018, 19:58

One of the neat things about Wolfe involves his precise use of symbolism. In Sorcerer's House Bax notes that when he lines up three symbols which resemble fish on the triannulus, a lot of other things fall into place. The rune which most resembles a fish, the odal rune, is associated with lineage and inheritance, and is especially associated with homesteading and allodial rights (ownership through occupation and defense).

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Odal\\_\(rune\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Odal_(rune))

The three fish are symbols of the things he is inheriting in the novel, though in some degree this extends to the women as well, though all of the tripartite structures are determined by two-one patterns (two bass, one catfish with a ring; two black fish meals, one white fish; two pigeons, one quail left by Winkle; two houses (with house spirits) and the Skotos Strip; ... even the women seem to fall into this pattern, as he seems to inherit Doris from Ted somehow. Two false, one true, in general.

(the figure of the horned skull on the triannulus does not merely imply the demonic, but the domovoy is also associated with small horns)

Should be finishing up this one soon, but I thought that was pretty neat.