

Aunt Jeanine, is she or isn't she?

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 14 Jun 1998

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Alice Turner — 14 Jun 1998, 11:04

Robert Borski is fond of his theory that Aunt Jeanine is actually an abo, and to that end has "hung fifty pounds of theory on nothing." I had considered a point by point refutation, but I really don't think it's worth it--the theory is just too fantastical, especially when, on her very first appearance, we see Aunt Jeanine manipulating a tool, the large key to her room. Her withered legs aren't evidence of anything.

Moreover, we're told over and over that she is #5's aunt, that Maitre is her brother, that Mr. Million started the line. Actually, though Maitre is technically her brother, she seems to be considerably older than he, and could belong to the generation ahead of him.

Here's a little chart:

GW1 = Mr. Million (#5's great grandfather, we have no reason to doubt) GW2 = gramps + Jeanine GW3 = Maitre GW4 = #5 + David

Why the disparity in numbers? Why indeed? Jeanine alludes to it too: "That number's either far too low or too high." It's one too high.

Jeanine seems to be in her 60s when introduced (#5 is 12). Maitre is "almost 50" (according to Marsch) when #5 is 18. Jeanine is thus in her late 70s or about 80 when she dies (#5 is 27).

Here's what I feel is the strongest point in my argument--my contention that Jeannine is the baby in the picture of the photo, which would make her 140 years old.

Notice how when he sees the picture Number Five assumes the child is a male, but has difficulty >seeing the face because it's nearly smothered by white wool blankets.

Recall as well Number Five's description of Aunt Jeannine as the Black Queen

in chess: "a chess queen neither sinister nor beneficent, and Black only as distinguished from

some White Queen I would never encounter." The White Queen Number Five never encounters, I >submit, is the real Jeannine--clearly linked by color with the white wool blanket that smother's the baby's face in the picture.

What an argument! Because Jeanine wears black and the baby white they are one and the same! Well, Robert, Jeanine is showing #5 *his own* mother, not hers, and the baby is thus clearly Mr. Million, the head of the line. Jeanine, like David, is an "outcropping," not a clone, with a separate mother. Pfffft, splat, there's your theory. What's your Vironese name?

-alga-