

Fifth Head of Cerberus, Beuzec

The Urth list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 02 Jul 1998

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mary whalen — 02 Jul 1998, 17:59

This is Sean Whalen (prion).

I'd like to thank mantis and Borski for their welcome and quick and informative replies. I'm going to have to think about how to find more evidence for some of their/my theories.

By the way, like so much else discussed on this list, prion has more than one meaning, if you want to look for it.

First, about the original Jeannine in the photo. Aunt Jeannine tells No. 5 that she will show him a picture of his true mother, and gives him the photo of the woman and child. If this is his mother, it must be his biological one, since a clone, like anyone else, has no other kind. If it is No. 5's biological mother, then she must be the biological mother of the original Gene Wolfe, and thus would not be married to her son, as is shown in your timeline, and is part of the source of the confusion I discussed in my original post.

Also, I've learned a little more about the Pleiades. In ancient mythology, the dimmest of the stars there was named Merope, but today it is called Asterope or Sterope (it switched it's name with a different one). Merope means eloquent (with op meaning voice), Sterope means lightning or stubborn face (with op meaning face), and Asterope means star eye (with op meaning eye). In myths, Merope is separate from Sterope, but Sterope is sometimes known as Asterope. The other sisters are Maia, Elektra, Taygete, Kelaino, and Alkyone.

Because of this, I think that the (physical, but not symbolic) reason Dr. Marsch couldn't see the Shadow Children constellation is that it is a dim group of stars, and he just couldn't make it out under less than optimum viewing conditions. I still believe Borski's symbolic explanation of a fake Marsch (VRT) finding a fake Aunt Jeannine later.

However, since the stars are the eyes of the Shadow Children, I think this could relate to the name Asterope (Star Eye). So I think Jeannine's mythological connections also have to do with Asterope replacing Merope in the modern world, like Jeannine replaced Eugenia (as I call the original human).

Hmm. Since Merope means eloquent, with the op portion meaning voice, does this have anything to do with Sweetmouth?

There are also two different stories on how the seven daughters of Pleione were put in the sky. One is that Zeus turned them into a flock of seven pigeons/doves in the sky so they could escape from Orion, who later became a constellation himself, still chasing them. The second is that they wept to death when their half-sisters the Hyades died, and Zeus made them into stars to be near the Hyades constellation. Also (!) there are two different words the name Pleiades could come from: peleia (dove) or pleo (I sail). Significance?

Concerning Beuzec as the slug... I've just remembered that every one of Hethor's creatures (try

saying that five times fast!) had a dual nature. The notules looked like bats when flying, paper scraps when feeding. The salamander looked like a small black figue when curled, a large bright reptile when unfurled. The worm was a slow crawler, then a burning leaper. Beuzec could be the other appearance of the slug, or even just a human infected by slug larva, who's going to be eaten by it as it grows.

Is Beuzec a saint's name? If it's not, that may be the clincher.

prion

Matthew Malthouse — 03 Jul 1998, 01:39 · follows mary whalen

mary whalen wrote:

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An Alta Vista search brings up only 5 references, all to a village in Brittany Beuzec-Cap-Sizun (commune de 1000 habitants en Bretagne)

Most of the references are non existant I'm afraid

Standing stone, Finistère, Brittany, Nearest town: Pont-l'Abbé, Nearest villages: Lanvénael and Beuzec <http://joshua.micronet.it/utenti/dmeozzi/France/Inglese/Lanvenael.html>

Make of that what you will

Matthew