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The Whorl list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 10 Sep 2000

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akt — 10 Sep 2000, 13:40

From: "Endymion9" <endymion9 at mindspring.com>

p.37 When Fava asks Incanto to play the game he says not if it involved

certain physical activities. Fava responds "Oh, I can't run."

p.45 Mora's Story (The Glant's Daughter). Mora says one girl was good at

running and jumping (Mora?). One girl was good at math and composition (Fava?).

Question: How can an inhuma be good at composition, writing with a delicate

tool? I've seen examples of inhumis absorbing personalities, does this mean

they can absorb abilities (composition in the common tongue) also?

Yes, I noticed this too; I put it down to authorial slip-up. She is good at story-telling, though, thus composition in the larger sense.

p.59 Scylla talks through Oreb saying "Help me!" Who later says

"Watch

out!" Oreb? Another rider. My question is how much personality is truly

Oreb's? Is it only when he says things like "Fish heads?" since that obviously isn't a rider. Rider's aren't concerned about the body's natural

needs re:Chenille's sunburn. Also "No Cut" is obviously Oreb's thoughts.

But can Oreb think to the level of "watch out?" on his own?

Scylla isn't riding Oreb here. The voice crying "Help me" is in Horn's dream; she haunts his dreams, as he tells us many times. The voice is precisely like Oreb's, but that is true with dream voices. We have no actual proof that Oreb says anything but "Watch out!" Not only have we seen (and heard) him utter warnings before, Horn actually comments that he "so often does" on this page.

I admit that this argument is somewhat weakened by "The Night Chough," which I will mail tomorrow. I kept forgetting to take it to the office last week--sorry.

p.60 Incanto says inhumis do not like to use tools or use them skillfully.

Once again how can Fava write then?

p.63 "What did you want with your brother?" the man of the Vanished People

asked him. And he said that he had hoped to bury the corpse and pray

for
the dead man's spirit. "So I feared..."

Why did the Neighbor fear that Horn would try to do this?

Hmm. Horn's task is to work as quickly as possible to clear the sewer in a rough, even brutal fashion; there is no time for burying and praying. I think that is all the Neighbor means.

-alga

*This is WHORL, for discussion of Gene Wolfe's Book of the Long Sun.