

Jahlee's Death Again

The Whorl list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 12 Apr 2001

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/whorl/1350>

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James Jordan — 12 Apr 2001, 15:51

Let me try out an hypothesis on you that may explain some of the ending.

We start out with Horn. Horn learns about the inhum, and even comes to love Krait. He sees the evil, but also the possible good of the inhum.

Horn becomes the Narrator, who is Horn mostly (see below). The Narrator has more experiences with the inhum, learns to care for Fava and Jahlee, etc.

But right at the end, Silk begins to awaken, it seems. Assuming he did:

What does Silk know about the inhum? Nothing really. He was not with Horn, and was asleep during the adventures of the Narrator. Sure, he's got Horn with him still (in some sense), but the more Silky the Narrator becomes, the more he seems to be reacting to the inhum the way we would expect someone without Horn's experience to react. Not only does he swiftly and brutally kill Jahlee, but he's not very understanding with Jugano either.

From the perspective of the inhum horde, the Narrator seems to have abandoned the promise that they saw in him. They don't know about this personality transformation and why it is happening, but they can see that the Narrator has turned against them, it seems. Thus, the attack.

On the Narrator as mainly Horn: The Neighbors make their deal with Horn. A Neighbor accompanies Horn on Green in the city. A Neighbor sends Horn into Silk's wounded body. Later on, the Neighbors continue to treat the Narrator as the same person they've dealt with before. I think this is a problem for those who think Horn died on Green. The Neighbors, we must assume, would know if that were really the case. The Neighbors assume a continuity between Horn and the Narrator, which tells me that the Narrator continues to be mainly Horn; i.e., that Horn is alive in Silk.

Maybe the Narrator is Horn-Silk until the end, and then Silk-Horn afterwards.

Patera Nutria

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