

(no subject)

The Whorl list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 01 Dec 2001

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j e — 01 Dec 2001, 06:57

A lull in activity on this list for a while - Seems like a good time to cast a tangents.

What is intended by the opening of Green's Jungles? A man named Cugino (cousin in Italia,) cuts a vine from a tree and makes a staff for a wandering holy man. My first impression of the words used to describe the cutting of the vine are that the vine is doubled in the way that Blue's indigenous life have double the limbs we expect. Note that the Writer mentions Nadi's eight-legged crocs just before writing:

Two mighty blows severed its stem twice, and a third a thick branch at the top of the severed portion. (pg 17 IGJ tpb)

I'm not sure of the symbolism here but I notice the writer ceases to stop pointing out this feature of Bluvian life forms. At least he does for the rest of IGJ, I haven't re-read RttW yet to look for more. And what about cousin Cugino? Is he in the family but not human? Why do his hands make the sound of two planks smacking rather than just sound like that? It occurred to me he could be an actual wooden man as opposed to just a wood man...I'm looking for other chems on Blue and he's my first choice. My guess is the tech was just a bit different in Grandecitta.

It seems to me the book (I mean SS as a whole) is largely about family and the demons that family's have. The protagonist, through the structure of the book is simultaneously on a quest away from his family and trying to return to it. A lot of OBW deals with Horn's relationship with his son Sinew and adopted son Krait as all three of them move toward a kind of Hell. In Green's Jungles he tries to protect a family and its town. I remember thinking at the end of RttW that it seemed sad that the family had been re-united with the exception of Sinew. That's not right though, the fact is Sinew, though still on Green, has survived and has a family. Not true for either Horn or Krait. Horn is a ghost in Silk's mind (I think) and as for Krait even his mother is dead. I'm not sure that inhumis truly have familial relationships. My suspicion is that if they do it's a lie, in the way that inhumis love or city living is a masquerade. This aspect of the inhumis, I think, makes them creepiest and most real. Wolfe must describing aspects of our world, right? The line of division the book seems to draw is that you are in the family or outside of it. Is this symbolized by the vine and the tree? The Writer tries to bring an inhumis into the family but the effort fails and he kicks her to death. The wedding scene that follows ends in an inhumis slaughter.

Some incomplete thoughts for now... below are a few names I've tried translating on the web.

Italian

cugino - cousin

rigoglio - luxuriance

casco - helmet (united nations called caschi blu)

schiamazza - din, racket.

decina as in la colonna delle decine, the tens column

onorifico honorary

soldo - money?

sfida - challenge

valicare - to cross

olmo - elm (note Peace fans, and who isn't a fan of peace ---the letter that begins IGJ starts

Olmo has fallen cuoio - hide eco - echo tordo - thrush terza - third

Hindu----not so sure about the accuracy but fwiw:

choora - four (the Rajan's knife)

hari mau every may?

jahlee jail?

chota - instantly, a snap, at once, a blot —

darjan - a dozen

chandi - fierce angry passionate

gaon - knowledge understanding knowing

ram - a negative value a debit an obligation

pehla - an ornament worn by ladies

German

geier - vulture

wichote - german word but I can't find a definition

All for now --

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