

Fat Puppy, Bermuda Triangle

The Whorl list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 11 Apr 1997

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m.driussi — 11 Apr 1997, 01:14

Reply: Item #5536428 from WHORL at LISTS.BEST.COM@INET01#

Hey Everybody,

Here is a fat puppy compilation of three messages I sent that were lost in the Bermuda Triangle. They're a bit dated now, but maybe not too stale.

GE Mail on Apr 09 17:52

To: WHORL at LISTS.BEST.COM@INET01#

Sub: (whorl) coo coup/fish & fowl

Reply: Item #7776624 from WHORL at LISTS.BEST.COM@INET01#

alga,

Re: Thecla/half-sister Thea(/Catherine?--if she's a khaibit of one or the other) coo, good point. Re: Church of the Conciliator, another good point. (Maybe I'm just remembering them from you telling me before, but I was about to mention them for you anyway.)

(You know, I'm becoming more convinced that you would really appreciate Peter Wright's essays in that "Foundation No. 66"--now I'm down to wondering if you would have anything to argue against them beyond simple quibbles!)

Vance,

Re: ghost of Pike, you are right, of course--a third possibility is that "things are really what they seem" and thus the ghost is a "real" ghost rather than a computer generated eidolon or "techno-ghost" (from New Sun and end of EXODUS THE LONG SUN). But I think that, even if this is true, it has pretty much the same effect as if it were an eidolon--in other words, it has a greater reality than the forgery of Quetzal disguising himself as Pike.

There is definitely a tie between Quetzal and Pike. For starters, Quetzal is most likely the same devil/vampire that Pike fended off so many years ago.

Personally, I think the explanation for the appearance of ghostpike is that Quetzal accidentally brought Pike down from Main Frame. The sequence goes like this: Silk is summoned to fight vampire; Silk carves his name five stories up [Talon's note: "five," but that's another story!], along with Pike's name, as a talisman against vampires (I've seen this sort of thing in vampire lit, too--sometimes the cross is a swastika, I think);

Quetzal returns for more young blood, sees the names carved there, and "goes wide" by his own account to Remora (so the magic works--go figure); Quetzal, obviously thinking of old times with Pike, maybe even checking therecords at Main Frame ("Isn't that old codger =dead= yet? Oh yeah, here it is--died last year. Go back to sleep, ghost."), flies over to Sun Street manteion for a peek at this presumptive heir to Pike; catches ghostgirl Mucor (in the buff) in Silk's room and flies back out; then [thank you for your patience] ENTER PIKE, just like how Bustard wanders back from the land of the dead following Auk back, or like how Silk meets his four parents in the same way.

See, Pike followed Quetzal back to the land of the living for a quick visit and was happy with what he saw. OR psi-magically, having both Quetzal and Silk thinking about Pike made mischivous Mucor go wake the ghost up for a visit, in the same way she seems to activate the other "sleeping" gods of Viron.

Re: Rose having a daughter (1, p. 69). Nope. I think that passage is referring to Scylla, the daughter of Echidna, rather than any mortal daughter.

Re: how did Silk kill Hierax the bird. Well, as I understand it, the bird's wings were clipped so it couldn't fly away. As Silk was losing conciousness he managed to push the bird off the roof and it fell to its death.

Re: Urus and the Triv at the tavern. One thing this suggests is that Urus was not previously employed by Trivigaunte--otherwise he would have brought this up. Urus is the one that Mint says is Evil. The information he gives leads to the attempted assassination of Spider, doesn't it? (I'm trying to remember. Eland is killed, mistaken for Spider--and a lynx dies, too. Ordered by Siyuf, presumably carried out by Willet/Hossaan.) Silk puzzled it together about that far, I think, and told somebody who told Horn.

=mantis=

GE Mail on Apr 10 09:02

To: WHORL at LISTS.BEST.COM@INET00#

Sub: (whorl) Idyll on a quaestor

Whoops--in my previous message, "coo coup/fish & fowl," I used the word "eidolon" when I should have used "aquastor" (even though I think that they might be used interchangeably by the commonality of the Commonwealth, for my own sense of mental cohesion I like to keep them separate: "eidolon" as beam-to-the-brain ghost, and "aquastor" as physically manifested ghost of hologrammic silvery dust).

The ghosts of Main Frame seem to be eidolons, by our man Sciathan's description and the experience of Silk's friends.

[Since "quaesitor" in early Roman times was a criminal investigator (mainly homicide, I think), I continue to wonder if "aquastors" are ghost detectives--that is, investigators of the living on behalf of the dead. Or there are the "quaestors," deputies of magistrates, that grew through the years of the Republic from a population of two to forty until Augustus reduced them to twenty: this job was the entry-level magistracy sought by ambitious young men. In context of "aquastor" this suggests a hierarchy and government of the dead.]

=mantis=

GE Mail on Apr 10 13:10

To: WHORL at LISTS.BEST.COM@INET01#

Sub: (whorl) more Wolfe on Q&D

Reply: Item #2545266 from WHORL at LISTS.BEST.COM@INET01#

Here's the latest from Gene Wolfe:

"Your own THE QUICK AND DIRTY GUIDE TO THE LONG SUN WHORL has been very valuable to me in the writing of THE BOOK OF THE SHORT SUN. I owe you thanks and offer them. You may quote me. [Yay!]

"Auk is not a member of "Blood's Gang." [Wolfe is probably referring to the Power Groups Table, p. 34-36] As a member of Viron's underwhorl he knows Blood, naturally. Orchid, on the other hand, is clearly and simply a subordinate of Blood's; he is the real owner of the yellow house, and sends Silk there to exorcise it. [I put Auk on the Blood list because he seems to have lied to Silk about his contacts with Blood--Blood's monitor knows Auk quite well.]

"To the best of my memory, that azoth has a hyacinth in the hilt, while the demon (the stone one presses to turn on the force beam) is a bloodstone (p. 3). [This shoots down my speculations that the stone, thought to be a bloodstone, was actually a tawny hyacinth stone--linking the azoth-as-gift to Hyacinth rather than Blood. I'll have to look for the hyacinths on the hilt, but offhand that sounds more like the needler Crane gave to Hy.]

"The Prolocutor's Palace, the Grand Manteion, and the Calde's Palace are all on the Palatine, that is to say, on a single hill which they all share with Ermine's and the mansions of the commissioners and some other rich people; thus the streets are narrow, and the buildings are tall but not wide. Everything uphill is necessarily quite close together. Note that neither the Juzgado nor the Alabrera are up there." [referring to the map on inside back cover. I meant to suggest that the Juzgado was at the base of the hill, but maybe my "hill lines" were too sketchy. Granted there's too much room on the hill as I've drawn it--but there are physical limitations, as well as conceptual ones! <g> "But which street has the proper position for =Gold= street? And where, oh where, is the Alameda?" I silently whine.]

Color me quite the happy camper.

=mantis=

P.S. vizcacha--glad to have you onboard the "Pike Aquastor" bandwagon. Alga won't come onboard anytime soon since she's the one who came up with the very interesting Quetzal-as-Pike theory.

=m=

Right. Well that's it for this trip down memory lane! I'll try to keep up with the rest of the pack now.

=mantis=