

Coo-coo-coo-roo

The Whorl list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 11 Apr 1997

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/whorl/196>

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Alice Turner — 11 Apr 1997, 22:54

Er-um. I really hate to back off, especially when a Big Rat threatens, but I may have exaggerated that cooing. A rather hasty paging through couldn't find Thecla cooing, though Thea certainly does (Shadow 13,14,98; Claw 268). Did I misremember? Possible, but I don't have time to really check.

mantis:

(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!)

Is this available commercially? Through amazon? I'm just about to place another order, and will look.

Nutria:

Worship has degrees, esp. in Roman Catholicism. Gene is very clear that Severian is not a Christ figure, but a Christian figure. Is Severian really the one true and original Conciliator for Urth? Also, the Outsider worship is PRE-Typhon.

Yes, I think that Severian is the OT&OCFU. Who sez Outsider worship is pre-Typhon (though I am perfectly willing to admit that Outsider worship merges very nicely with older worshipful figures including pre JC ones)?

The Holy Spirit, as dove, coos. (Now, which ear heard the cooing, and does Severian's bird consistently ride the same shoulder? Hmmm.)

Oreb as Holy Spirit? Now that's a thigh-slapper.

I grant that the Severian is not the Increate (neither is the Outsider),
Whoa! On what basis? It seems to me that the Outsider is indeed the pancreating Increate.

That's interesting. I never thought so. But then I think Severian is a god, insofar as I understand gods, and I placed him as Wolfe's JC figure. I simply can't see the Increate as a personal god.

Nope. Remember the protestant missionaries from the 20th century (equivalent) in "Shadow." It was not Severian they worshipped. Also, you gotta bear in mind that for Gene, Jesus is not just thought to be God, He IS God incarnate. And that is something Severian is not. Now, if Zelazny had written these books, you'd have a point....

No, of course the missionaries worship JC. And I'll accept that Wolfe is a Christian, on Earth. But on Urth, he has done the very neat trick of creating his own JC equivalent...an especially neat trick for a practicing Christian (I speak as a heathen, as if you couldn't guess, but as a fairly

well-read and interested heathen).

I believe Nutrias, being aquatic, feed on algae....

First, they have to catch them.

Lasrach:

(What is a "lasrach?" Once again, the OED fails me!)

FWIW I also agree completely that, at least at some level, the Outsider passages refer to Severian, who at this time is also the New Sun zooming towards Urth, who can manipulate Severian's Urthly body like a puppet from great distances. If we're seeking some kind of consistent explanation of how Severian is affecting affairs on the Long Sun, then I think that's probably it. The Increate in tBotNS isn't a personal god: there is a complicated hierarchy of beings who serve the Increate in the temporal universe. In no case does the Increate explicitly intervene in human affairs, relying instead on the holy slaves to interact with humans.

I'd have to sort the above out a bit, but viscerally and a little vaguely I go along with it.

vizcacha:

The aquastor theory is mantis's. I'm of the Quetzal camp!

Talon:

This citation, and Silk's progressive realization that the Outsider is the "God of gods", leads me to believe that no mere mortal could take on the role of the Outsider. The Conciliator may have been worshiped but was not truly divine.

I don't see how you can say that Severian is a mere mortal. Everything about him is progressively supernatural, he performs miraculous healings, is tested as a god, saves the Urth itself, walks the corridors of time, breathes water, convenes with angels, has his soul linked to a star--hey, what more do you want?

Tusk: (funny derivation <g>)

Excellent questions, and *not* hashed to death! Welcome, and I hope someone can answer them. I can't! But the BVM is a not entirely polite way of referring to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

mantis, I can't believe you didn't ask him about Pike's ghost!!!!!!

-alga-

Doug Eigsti — 12 Apr 1997, 08:39 · follows Alice Turner

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I see Severian as a mere mortal that has put on immortality, and other supernatural characteristics, through the workings of the Increate/Pancreator, not through any innate qualities he may possess. His elevated station is the result of divine intervention. He is the Increate's chosen instrument, just as Silk is the Outsider's. (I had to work in some Whorl content for Ranjit).

=Talon=