

Welcome Joel

The Whorl list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 07 May 1997

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/whorl/273>

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m.driussi — 07 May 1997, 23:59

Reply: Item #0435467 from WHORL at LISTS.BEST.COM@INET02#

Welcome aboard, Joel.

Gee, tons of stuff here. I don't think I'll have the ergs to (try to) answer them all.

Yes, our alga (temporarily away at the moment) is the multi-talented historian of Hell.

Re: is Pas =really= Typhon? Add to the "similarities" list: title "Monarch." Oh, enough toying--"Daddy [Pas] was Typhon the first, back home [Urth]" LAKE, ch. 11, 275.

Re: is Pas/Typhon the only link so far? Nope. Scylla is mentioned one time in NEW SUN. FWIW, and I suspect you are looking for a lot more than that.

Re: Typhon's interstellar empire possible without FTL ships and/or communication? Well first off, Typhon was trying to rebuild a fallen interstellar empire--so it had already been done at least once before; the so-called First Empire. Second, it seems that near-light-speed STL travel (using those photonic sails) is possible within the skin of the Briah universe, and at near-light-speed, starships need not be "generational" to get around (time dilation makes shiptime pass quite quickly). Third, FTL seems to be a technological leap above these magical photonic sails and basically amounts to leaving Briah and entering a tachyon universe (Yesod-as-hyperspace) where time flows backward.

In New Sun, Typhon talks of people with ships abandoning him and leaving Urth. So it would seem that the starfaring remnant of the First Empire (and/or the angelic fleets of Yesod) that he had enlisted cut and ran when rebellion broke out (or maybe their leaving triggered the rebellion?).

Re: "If Typhon had access to the sort of technology that even the Councilors had," I'm afraid I don't understand this part.

Re: Blue/Green as mutual satellites. The word used to describe the conditions wherein inhuman cross from Green to Blue is "conjunction." (I don't recall seeing the term "air bridge" in Long Sun [although it might be used for a location of the House Absolute in New Sun].)

While "conjunction" can be used to describe two Earth/Luna positions, it is more often used to describe positions between Earth and any other full fledged planet. For one reason: Earth/Luna conjunctions occur with great frequency, once a month; Earth/Mars conjunctions occur once every 779.9 days (two years or so); Earth/Venus conjunctions every 584 days.

Why does this matter? Well, in the real world of space travel, the most energy efficient mode of travel between two planets is called the Hohmann Transfer Orbit (HTO). It uses conjunctions of

the planets to their full advantage--even so, travel time is measured in months: Earth/Venus = 146 days, Earth/Mars = 260 days.

So I don't think there is an air bridge between Blue and Green. I think they are separate planets, like Venus/Earth or Earth/Mars; I think that the inhuma swim through the relatively hard vacuum of space in dog-paddling imitation of the more stately ("breast stroke"?) undines and hierogrammates; and that, if the conjunctions were every month, as happens with Earth/Luna, or even every two months, the place would be crawling with so many vampires that what would be the point of noting a new conjunction? But all of this is just my opinion.

The text also mentions that when Green is close it is almost like a second sun at night and it exerts monster tides. Hmmm. This factoid points towards a highly eccentric orbit, methinks. Green could be a moon of Blue, but then the tides would =always= be monstrous. Seems to me more likely that Blue and Green have a complex orbit like that of Pluto and Neptune, where sometimes wild Pluto is inside of Neptune's orbit.

Re: the wormy thing in Father Inire's workshop. No, it was a butterfly woman. I.e., Tzadkiel.

Re: shiprock. I was more reminded of the concrete onboard the starship "Tzadkiel," myself. (Which in turn is different from the stressed ice of the starship in "Silhouette," fwiw.)

=mantis=