

Monitors, Landers, Green and Blue

The Whorl list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 15 Jul 1997

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/whorl/406>

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Kevin McGuire — 15 Jul 1997, 00:43

With regard to Ron's monitor question (which quite frankly echoed my own...) - I understand Wolfe's explanation, but this behavior seems, well, a little out of character for the glass monitors, and what I had taken them to be. My understanding was that the monitors were data gathering tools of Mainframe, each with its own (limited) subset personality, though capable of communicating and sharing info with each other. Questions monitors handle in the BOTLS seem mostly "where is so and so?" though clearly they observe lots of stuff.

Here's what is sticking in my craw - the monitor, apparently on its own (possibly in conjunction with mainframe, but wouldn't this involve Pas or the sprats?) observes that Q is inhum, and that Q has persuaded the occupants to choose one planet over the other, and is so mistrustful of Q/inhum that it reverses the decision of the Cargo it had originally asked, and once it has decided this, it doesn't inform the Cargo of their new destination (they find out by looking out the window). This implies a lot more initiative and synthesis than I had given the monitors credit for. So, does Silk and the rest continually underestimate the monitor's powers (a not unreasonable thought) or is the monitor in the lander a bit sharper/more independent? Or was there a Monitor Directive #305 - "If an inhum says left, go right,"?

The latter seems to me unlikely, in that from what Wolfe has said in the various Q&A sessions, the Whorl was launched without any knowledge of the inhum presence in the Blue/Green system.

Kevin McGuire | "Human beings are perhaps never more frightening than Philadelphia, PA | when they are convinced beyond doubt that they are right"

| --Laurents van der Post