

Names, animals, and meanings (C)

The Whorl list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 28 Jul 1998

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mary whalen — 28 Jul 1998, 16:27

This is Sean Whalen (prion).

Cassava. One of the species of the genus *Manihot*. Roots used to make tapioca. An old woman on Sun Street.

Cavy. A species in the family Caviidae, especially the cavy (*Cavia tschudii*). Large South American rodents. Live in burrows. Most look like large guinea pigs crossed with a rabbit with a longer face. Also the name for a herd of work horses (or a cavvy). A boy in Silk's palaestra.

Chamomile. A plant of genus *Anthemis* (especially *Anthemis nobilis*) or *Matricaria* (especially *Matricaria chamomilla*) or the oil or perfume made of those plants' flowers. An assistant at the Talus factory.

Chenille. French for caterpillar, from Latin *canicula* (little dog), from *canis* (dog). A yarn of wool, cotton, or silk; which is named chenille because of it's resemblance to the thread by which a caterpillar hangs. The chenille plant (*Acalypha hispida*) from East India, which has spikes of crimson flowers that look like chenille (the fabric). The chenille weed, a red alga (*Rhodomelaceae Dasya elegans*) found on the western coast of the North Atlantic. This name relates her to Tussah, and thus to Silk. It also connects her to the chenille plant (called burning cattail), causing the confusion about the device on her knife.

Chervil. *Anthriscus cerefolium*. Also called beaked parsley. A sweet-smelling herb which has leaves used in soups and salads. Wife of Coypu.

Chiquito. Spanish for little boy. Also an indigenous tribe in Bolivia. The name of the parrot owned by Mamelta's parents (which is why he doesn't have an animal name, he's not Vironese).

Civet. Any of the many species of the family Viverridae, including the civet cat (*Civettictis civetta*), a two to three foot long mammal with a thin body and long thin tail. Fox-like heads. The family also includes linsangs, genets, meerkats, and mongooses. Also the pelt of any of these animals, or a thick, fat, oily, musky, smelly, clear brown or yellow bodily substance found in the pouch near the penis of the civet cat, used in perfumes. The officer whose soldiers killed Crane while trying to rescue silk.

Coypu. Also spelled coypou. *Myocastor coypus*, a South American two-foot-long aquatic diving rodent with webbed feet. Looks like a beaver with a long rat tail. Bred for their fur, but many have escaped and are now considered pests in many areas of the world. Also called nutria. The husband of Chervil.

Crane. A species of the family Gruidae. Tall wading birds that look like herons. Alias used by Sigada while working as a spy in Viron.

prion