

A few things

The Whorl list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 04 Oct 1999

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Dan Schmidt — 04 Oct 1999, 09:36

Eeeagh, this is the first time I've been stuck in the middle of a multi-year Wolfe story (I didn't discover him until this summer, and have been plowing through all the Sun books), and it's frustrating!

1. I do like the double story. The combination of Horn being able to tell his past story fairly omnisciently, while the present story is very up in the air, works very well. I imagine the series will continue the same way, so that in effect we read parts 1 and 4, then 2 and 5, then 3 and 6, of the whole story. Neat. What are the odds that the subsequent books will be written by someone other than Horn? The possibility didn't occur to me until just now.

2. I really wanted Blue to be Urth/Ushas, just because it would be So Neat (I figure the 300 years isn't really a problem, because of relativistic effects blah blah, and yeah, the Moon would have to be knocked out to a planetary orbit, but these things happen). So I read the whole book looking for connections, but couldn't find any, unless Seawrack's "Mother" is one of the sea monsters from New Sun.

3. What's with the double limbs of all native Bluians? Unless I misread (I haven't gone back to check), I saw

- Hus have eight legs;
- The Neighbors have four legs and four arms (this is mentioned in passing, as if it were't astonishing at all);
- Elephants have eight legs.

Any significance?

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*This is WHORL, for discussion of Gene Wolfe's Book of the Long Sun.