

Paul, Silk, and Horn (and Moses)

The Whorl list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 18 Oct 1999

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/whorl/699>

Exported from an unofficial mirror of a public mailing list. Copyright in each message remains with the person who wrote it. Email addresses are obscured as `user at host`, the form the original archive published. This file was rebuilt from parsed fields rather than retained headers, so it is faithful in content but not byte-exact.

Alex David Groce — 18 Oct 1999, 12:54

Here we go:

Galatians 4:13-15:

13 As you know, it was because of an illness that I first preached the gospel to you. 14 Even though my illness was a trial to you, you did not treat me with contempt or scorn. Instead, you welcomed me as if I were an angel of God, as if I were Christ Jesus himself. 15 What has happened to all your joy? I can testify that, if you could have done so, you would have torn out your eyes and given them to me.

--

Now, it seems likely that with the set-up of Maytera Marble's blindness and Horn's quest for her, and the fact that "Horn" in his new body is missing an eye, we will probably have an example of someone tearing out their eyes and giving them to someone else coming up in the future of SHORT SUN.

It seems like this is a reversal of the passage above, where 15 is what has given rise to the suggestion that Paul's illness was some kind of vision problem. Horn is the St. Paul figure here, and is probably going to give up his own eye for Marble's eye at some point. On the other hand, if it is Silk's body that Horn is in, perhaps this happened before Horn came to inhabit Silk's body, and so we have a literal case of the Paul figure taking on the sufferings of the Christ figure. And then there's the Odin conflation floating around all of this...

vizcacha brings up the Moses analogy also, which suggests that Silk himself may not ever set foot on Blue. Moses, of course, died before he reached the Promised Land, but came back later at the transfiguration in the Gospels. Is Horn the means by which Silk is setting foot on Blue only after death?

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32

--

Alex David Groce (agroce+ at cs.cmu.edu)

Ph.D. Student, Carnegie Mellon University - Computer Science Department

8112 Wean Hall (412)-268-3066

<http://www.cs.cmu.edu/~agroce>

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