

inhumi secret

The Whorl list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 12 Nov 1999

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Xworders — 12 Nov 1999, 22:09

Hello, all:

I subscribed to this list for a time in its infancy, then became too busy to keep up. I'm ready for a new hitch, having just finished the wonderful, deeply satisfying, deeply mysterious OBT.

I'll need to reread before I venture many opinions about the book's riddles, but I offer this single thought for now:

Is it possible that by mixing blood with the Neighbors, humans could become immune to (or unappetizing to) the inhumi? I ask because 1) the Neighbors do not seem to be victims of the inhumi, and 2) there were some veiled references to blood-mixing, including a ceremony that involved pointing at the sky. (Horn took these references to blood-mixing metaphorically, but maybe that was his error.) If Horn were to spread the word that by swapping blood with the Neighbors, humans could cease being victimized by the inhumi, then the inhumi might be left with nothing but beasts upon which to feed--and so would lose their "intelligent" nourishment.

Just a thought. Apologies if it's been proffered previously. I've just re-upped and have tried to read the last 2 weeks' messages, but may have missed some stuff.

--Henry Rathvon

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