

Did Horn miss Severian by minutes?

The Whorl list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 24 Jul 2000

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Nicholas Gevers — 24 Jul 2000, 08:11

I've mentioned this before, but now that many people have read IGJ, perhaps I can get more comment: I strongly believe that Horn's visit to Nessus takes place at the same time as the opening chapter of THE SHADOW OF THE TORTURER. Clue: Horn and company need to be guided into the Citadel, so the guard at the Citadel's gate, Badour, abandons his post to accompany them; when Severian and his friends try to return to the Matachin Tower in Chapter One of SHADOW, they find the guard gone, with no explanation for his absence. Very probably, Horn missed meeting the apprentice Severian by only a short time. I should add that in his NOVA EXPRESS interview (1998), Wolfe said that THE BOOK OF THE SHORT SUN would "take us into the world of Severian's childhood"; it seems certain that just this has happened.

Another note: the originally projected title for SHORT SUN Volume Three was UNDER THE LONG SUN, not RETURN TO THE WHORL...