

another latecomer to the party finally finishes IGJ (spoilers)

The Whorl list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 10 Aug 2000

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Dan Parmenter — 10 Aug 2000, 10:35

Howdy folks -

I've been working my way through the back issues of the Whorl list digest having finally finished IGJ. I still have a lot of questions and I'm still processing it all, but one question in particular hit me like a bolt from the blue: was the Cumaeon from BOTNS an Inhuma? Please shoot me down in flames if I'm clearly and demonstrably overlooking some obvious reason for why that makes no sense.

Random impressions: There's something of a "C.S. Lewis moment" in IGJ when Incanto and company visit Nessus. The description was (IMO) very evocative of the city of Charn in THE MAGICIAN'S NEPHEW, so much so that at first I wondered if they had come to the Stone Town (completely abandoned as opposed to merely squalid like Nessus), which led to my above speculation.

Other literary "echoes": even if Green isn't Lune, I can't help but detect a little bit of the influence of Brian Aldiss' HOTHOUSE (aka THE LONG AFTERNOON OF EARTH) much as BOTLS seemed like another take on Aldiss's generation ship in STARSHIP (of course Aldiss didn't invent the concept, but he did have a priest as one of the major characters). I think there was even a reference to green spiders (the moon of HOTHOUSE is inhabited by giant vegetable spiders), though I'll have to double check. These are all very incidental and probably has more to do with my sentimental attachment to the two Aldiss books.

Eco: a tip of the hat?

Shellac

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