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Bas

Auteur :

Sujet: Gandal/Minos vs Lady Gandal/Minas

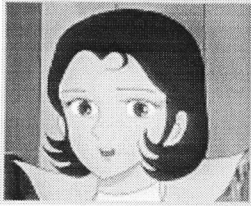
Fabrice Messages postés : 32	Posté le 17/06/2004 18:55:23 Do you really think that there are 2 caracteres in Minos' head? My question is : has Gandal/Lady Gandal two different brains since they have two faces, two voices? Or Does Minos/Gandal suffer from a double personality? --Message edité par fabrice le 2004-06-17 18:56:56--
Stratéguerre Messages postés : 100	Posté le 17/06/2004 19:34:08 Je pense qu'il s'agit plutôt d'un dédoublement de personnalité propre à la race dont est issu Minos, et non pas de deux personnes dans le même corps (encore que ça aboutit au même résultat... Gandal, tu confirmes ?
Fabrice Messages postés : 32	Posté le 17/06/2004 20:40:40 Si c'est un dédoublement de la personnalité, pourquoi y a t-il deux visages alors? Par contre, je trouve Minas (second vidage) super belle! Pas toi?
Stratéguerre Messages postés : 100	Posté le 17/06/2004 21:44:03 Oui, bien sûr qu'elle est belle, mais c'est du Grand Stratéguerre qu'elle aurait dû tomber amoureuse ! Gandal pourra peut-être nous confirmer que le dédoublement de personnalité de sa race d'origine est tel que Dame Nature a poussé les choses à leur paroxysme et doté ces êtres de la possibilité de l'exprimer physiologiquement... A moins que la nature n'y soit pour rien et

	 que Minos se soit fait "greffer" Minas
Horos Messages postés : 15	 Posté le 17/06/2004 22:12:35  Je pense que Minos et Minas sont 2 personnes différentes dans le même corps, avec 2 cerveaux différents et qu'il ne s'agit pas de dédoublement de personnalité. D'ailleurs dans le dernier épisode Minos arrive à tuer Minas physiquement en se tirant dessus, sans doute du côté où logeait le cerveau de celle-ci... Pourquoi croyez-vous que Véga m'ait envoyé ici...
Dantus Messages postés : 123 	 Posté le 17/06/2004 22:28:30  J'avais aussi lu, que Minas était une minuscule femme à la double personnalité, qui pilotait un corps robotique à l'aspect masculin. Enfin peu importe, ce sont tout les 2 des traîtres ! Sans eux, le prince d'Euphor aurait été jugé et condamné depuis longtemps par un tribunal pénal intergalactique ! Traître de Minos !
Stratéguerre Messages postés : 100	 Posté le 17/06/2004 22:50:54  Réponse : Horos a dit : Je pense que Minos et Minas sont 2 personnes différentes dans le même corps, avec 2 cerveaux différents et qu'il ne s'agit pas de dédoublement de personnalité. D'ailleurs dans le dernier épisode Minos arrive à tuer Minas physiquement en se tirant dessus, sans doute du côté où logeait le cerveau de celle-ci... Je veux pas prêcher pour ma paroisse, mais ça ne prouve rien ! On peut très bien "tuer" (effacer) une de ses personnalités quant on souffre de ce type de problème tout en conservant les autres. 
Stratéguerre Messages postés : 100	 Posté le 17/06/2004 22:52:46  Gamin, je croyais que Minas était l'épouse de Minos 
Dantus Messages postés : 123 	 Posté le 17/06/2004 23:00:20  Réponse : Stratéguerre a dit : Gamin, je croyais que Minas était l'épouse de Minos  Ca aurait été un amour très fusionnel !!!

Suzi

Messages postés : 222

I am not an alien but I am unique



Traître de Minos !

Posté le 18/06/2004 01:10:37



Fabrice, have you heard of conjoint twins, who are joined by parts of their bodies and separated in others? Did it ever occur to you that Gandal/Lady Gandal could be conjoint twins? An

alien type of conjoint twins?
That was just a thought!



We did have an interesting discussion on the matter in the previous forum where we could not agree in the end on anything. I know that in some versions, it was clearly stated that they are spouses, but certainly not in the arabic version.

I could argue like I always did, why would any female in the world/universe want to give away her feminine assets to inhabit a man's body and initially shrink to nothing more than a hand-span sized creature? Besides, in the first portrayal of Lady Gandal as the little witch, I always wondered how did she live inside a man's head. Didn't she need a place to sleep, a toilet, a shower, you know all life essentials that everyone needs to survive? Poor Gandal's head would be full of dirt and bodily refuse!^_^!
And if they were man and wife how did they satisfy their sexual desires in this "merging" existence, what about children?

Ok, my list of questions can go from here until tomorrow, but as you can see I am not convinced that they are a man and wife, and I can't understand how can a woman live entirely in a man's head, where would his brain go?

I know I am being very sarcastic, and I really can go on forever on the matter, but to put the scientific side of my brain at rest, I look at Gandal/Lady Gandal existence as "symbolic". I personally find the presentation of Baron Ashler in Mazinger Z (half man/half woman) more "realistic/ acceptable" than a tiny witch living in a man's head, and then how she was re-stretched to become a normal size being just emerging to the world with a face, struggling to prove her existence as a separate being, present her ideas and pursue her choices..... well, as you can see, it is all symbolic of the ongoing gender conflict about

domination and superamcy.



--Message édité par suzi le 2004-06-18 03:13:26--

"Nothing in life is to be feared. It is only to be understood.".....Marie Curie

Orion Quest

Messages postés : 155

Je suis le Prince d'Euphor!
Le Maître de la Terre!!!

Posté le 18/06/2004 03:38:46



Neither in the French version is it stated Minos and Minas are husband and wife. Actually, their status towards each other is never spoken of, much less clarified.

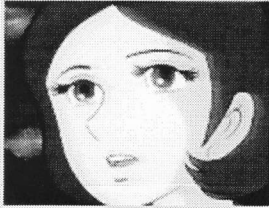
My view about it, is they are two beings living in a kind of gestalt. Each needing a part of each other to survive.

As to how and why she's cooped up in a man's body, especially in her "little witch" appearance, is beyond me...

And I always thought Minas and King Vega once had a thing going... Romantically i mean...

Gerdha

Messages postés : 188
Hikaru still rules!!!



Posté le 18/06/2004 08:08:22



Yes, as Suzi recalled TCT had a GREAT discssion some months ago on the Le Forum. I copy here the text of our posts there - I hope that new memb of this forum could enjoy the reading despite the bad layout.

Hey, TCT is still waiting for new subscriptions, so any further comment is welcome!!!! ^_^

@+
Gerdha

Jerome

Minas....TCT and Vénusia (Gerdha don't kill me!!!LOL) le 21/11/2003 à 20:09:13

Je vais lancer un nouveau thread en réponse au TCT puisqu'il est vrai que nous n'avons que très peu discuté (en français et en anglais!!) des méchar
Surtout ce qui m'a surpris c'est que nous avons longuement discuté de tou
les personnages féminins à l'exception d'un seul et non des moindres :
Minas! Je me souviens que nous avons abordé sa trahison dans l'épisode :
mais rien d'autre. Or il s'avère que ce personnage est très intéressant
puisque'il faut bien l'avouer c'set à la fois le plus intelligente et le plus cruel
des 'généraux' de Véga. Quand on y pense les plans les plus machiavéliques
(surtout dans la partie 1 avec Hydargos) ont été inventé par Minas. d'ailleur
sa présence gêne profondément aussi bien Hydargos que Minos. Aussi me
suis-je dit que Minas d'une certaine façon représentait une figure féminine
symétrie avec Vénusia, comme son calque (her exact opposite).
je m'explique : elle est intrinsèquement sous la domination d'un homme
(Minos) pusiqu'elle vit dans sa tête ou dans son corps (version 2) (Vénusia
est sous la domination de Riguel). Pourtant toute la série repose sur sa
volonté d'émancipation et également de rédemption. Elle se fait tuer par
Minos parce que d'une certaine façon elle a hésité à le tuer elle, (elle ne l'a
qu'immobilisé pendant un certain temps!) Tout comme Vénusia elle aspire
autre chose. Elle croit tout d'abord réussir à obtenir les bonnes grâces des
hommes l'entourant en étant finalement plus ingénieuse plus cruelle qu'eux
en d'autres termes plus intelligente (en cela elle se rapprocherait d'une
Merteuil dans Les liaisons dangereuses) mais à l'instar de la Merteuil elle d
un jour payer. Son revirement final est trop en contradiction avec l'intrigue
avec son personnage avec la méchanceté qu'elle a pu développer (pensez
que c'est elle qui a inventé le sosie de la mère d'Actarus et celui de son père
si je me souviens bien aussi!). Les coup les plus tordus ont été faits par elle
alors que ses comparses en bons machos s'acharnaient à vaincre Goldorak
Actarus par la force, elle s'ingéniait à contourner la difficulté par la ruse. E
cela aussi elle représente tout à fait une référence à la ruse antique et
grecque, à la Athéna ou à la Héra.
Dès lors le rapprochement avec Vénusia quoique osé peut être fait. cette
dernière voulant s'émanciper de son père, de sa société, de son statut est
combat constant avec l'image et le rôle qu'on lui incombe, comme Minas
finalement qui à mon sens ne s'est montrée si machiavélique que pour peu
être vivre enfin libérée de la mainmise masculine.

Sorry I don't have the time to translate right now But I hope those of you

(TCT) will understand what I meant. Otherwise mail me or ask for a translation I'll try to do it ASAP....
Waiting for your remarks...

Gerdha

Minas....TCT and Vénusia le 21/11/2003 à 21:36:07

Nice post, Jerome, I hope I have understood it correctly. I see your point, and I would like to offer some more remarks from my side.

I have been always mesmerised by the fact that Minos and Minas are husband and wife, and by the fact that first Lady Gandal is in the male's head, and in ep28 becomes instead the other side of his whole person. Nagai has always loved the "hybrid" concept, starting with Devilman passing through Baron Ashura and then the generals of Great Mazinger to reach finally Gandal/Lady Gandal. I have often read comments about Gandal being an evolution of Ashura, but I disagree. Ashura is created by Hell assembling two bodies, so Ashura is always the same person and his/her two personalities act accordingly. Gandal has "another person" living INSIDE her first as a sort of "evolved conscience" then as another body – like if Mr. Gandal is a sort of "oyster". An oyster which hides a pearl (in her own view of course): the woman who must "hide" somehow in a social and military hierarchy dominated by male (king, commanders and ministries) first in the head, then as another face of her man. It's clear that Minas is more intelligent, rational, brave of Mr. Gandal, but nevertheless she must hide. She is respected when she appears, but because she is a part of Gandal. It's anyway interesting that she starts as a female figure living inside Gandal's head, and she appears "opening his face": I have always had the impression that it happened when he "didn't want to listen to her" (do you take the picture?). The same process happens also later, after ep28, but adding also a further level of independence, so she can take the lead of the body and be autonomous.

I find hard to speculate anyway on why Nagai thought to Minos/Minas as husband and wife. I mean, is it a projection of his own beliefs about what marriage is and/or how a wedding works or of his desires or... nightmares about the matter? Anyway, I find extremely interesting to see how many different from usual storytelling characters exist in Grendizer, and how many strong and fascinating female are acting in this anime. Grendizer (plus Jeeg, when it appears a similar approach) is really a special creature in Nagai's world..

And now... here is the analysis about a possible comparison between Venusia and Lady Gandal. Well, Jerome, I think I have understood your point, and in a way I agree with you. I disagree about Danbei's domination on Hikaru, but talking about a female fight for freedom from prejudices and social rules, yes, both Venusia and Minas have the same narrative role in both the "main sides of the story (the Japanese society and the Vegan army)". Under this perspective, Grendizer has been really a revolutionary anime.

But I would like to underline a big difference between Lady Gandal and Venusia: both fight for their emancipation from "inside" the men's world, but while the first one accepts to "become" a man to reach her goal, Hikaru keeps her femininity. Venusia neither transforms herself in a man nor accepts to mimic a man to get respect: she does the same job (the fighter) from a certain point of the story, but keeping all her womanliness (have I already told that Hikaru rules???)

Oh well, these are only random thoughts.... hope they make sense.

PS: hey, have you all noticed this is thread n° 100 on this new forum???

Suzi

Minas....TCT and Vénusia le 22/11/2003 à 00:19:36

Just a quick response, but I promise to post a longer one later if you wish. First I don't perceive Gandal & Lady Gandal as husband and wife in the known acceptable context of the term. For me, this creature is one, it can't be two amalgamated together. Logically & theoretically it is impossible. However I perceive this creature as a hermaphrodite, i.e. a creature that has both male and female genital organs (even though we are not even sure that this is the case in Gandal & Lady Gandal).

Anyway, I don't know what exactly fascinates Nagai in this weird hermaphroditism concept but I think that Gandal & Lady Gandal is merely a reflection of all era in which men and women compete and nag each other gender supremacy yet they are interdependant on each other for existence. The destruction of one gender will ultimately lead to the demise of the other.

What I can't understand is why the portrayal of the "female" as a traitor and not the male. What is the hidden message there, hey, don't trust women I suppose! Isn't it?

Jerome I don't find Lady Gandal "pressured" by Gandal or "men" in general. She was the ultimate pressure herself. She was even more dominant than Gandal, she rules the game and she is puppeteer if you know what I mean. To resemble her to Hikaru....is somewhat far fetched for me. Perhaps because I don't perceive her as a "separate" being. She is part of Gandal or he is part of her, ...ah well they are a part of each other and can't be separated. The "hiding" concept symbolises that women work in the "darkness" or behind man's shadow even though they rule the game.

Something in a way that reminds of the saying in the movie of "My Big Fat Greek Wedding" in which Toula's mother said to her "The man is the head of the house but the woman is the neck which moves the head around". I think that is a very clever true statement, and also a reflection of Gandal & Lady Gandal (The head and the "hidden" neck). It is interesting too that when Lady Gandal "acquired" her "head" (ep 28 onwards) the balance between the head and neck stumbled and they both died.

Lady Gandal was the ruthless callous heartless dishonest treacherous part of Gandal. And please don't start me on criticising Mr Nagai for his depiction of the female as such. I already have problems trying to understand his concepts of the "mother". I better not tread that path, and please take no offence guys but the symbolism is too clear to be ignored.

DJinspace, Congratulations on the 100th thread in the new forum mate!

LVD

Minas....TCT and Vénusia le 22/11/2003 à 02:04:13

un personnage fascinant s'il en est.

Mais je ne suis pas d'accord avec Jerome sur sa trahison(euh, la trahison de Minas, pas celle de Jerome :-))

C'est vrai que ça arrive un peu "brutalement". Mais avait-elle le choix? Non, apparaissait évident que l'empire de Vega n'en avait plus pour très longtemps, c'est peut-être la seule dans son camp à avoir osé regarder la

realite en face. L'instinct de survie est plus fort chez une femme que chez homme(je pense). Donc tant pis, si la trahison etait la seule solution pour survivre, alors il etait normal qu'elle la choisisse.
(maintenant, j'avais lance un topic la-dessus il y a longtemps, en suggerer "si elle avait reussi son coup, qu'aurait fait Minos par la suite?" Question qui restera a jamais sans reponse...)

Jerome

Minas....TCT and Vénusia le 22/11/2003 à 10:59:46

Well, thanks for your answers and definitely Minas is another great character in the anime.

1st LVD well the concept of treason is maybe extreme but on a Vegan point of view that's what she did. I do agree with you who was the only one to choose to see reality as it was and act accordingly! For that somehow she earned my deepest respect.

That's what I wanted to say somehow she is striking in the sense that she has a complex personality. She's smart and dubious and awful and cruel, that we know but she somehow triggers various feelings like a love and hate relationship somehow.

Gerdha I do agree with you and your analysis. What I wanted to say when compared her to Venusia is not the personality or even the social status. Not just the fact that they represent 'women' trying to transcend their own conditions in their societies. One represents the Good and the other the Evil but Nagai, although he sometimes and I agree with Suzi has a very conservative view on woman's place in life, did introduce riddles and boobytraps in this evil personality of Minas. Especially in the end when she tries to kill Vega.

I hope I'm making sense.

Suzi

Minas....TCT and Vénusia le 22/11/2003 à 12:12:13

Ah yes, Jerome you are making sense, too much sense that I am feeling crazy. LOL!

But as a kid, I used to call the first lady Gandal "little woman in Gandal's head" the wicked witch {g}.

I have been puzzled by the significance of changing her appearance to a more appealing one. Was it just an attempt to give her a better design like what they did with Hikaru and Daisuke? Or was there a hidden purpose?

As a kid too (and I still do) I wondered where is Gandal's brain if this little witch is occupying his head? And in the second part when she had a full face in Gandal's head, where did Gandal's face disappear to? and how? Well, I thought about muscle, skin, nerves, and blood vessel attachments. I know it is a fictional character but I can't help think scientifically. All what I end up saying to myself. Ah well it is a Japanese anime so everything is possible even if it doesn't make sense. And now you talk about them like a "married" couple, a husband and wife! Oh dear please have mercy on my poor brain for this is just too much to consider!

What makes you perceive them as "husband and wife"? I never perceived them this way. I mean yeah, they are a male and a female tied together

one body (more or less like a husband and wife sharing the same life). Is it really what they are meant to be? A husband and wife?
 Right, I think I really need to digest this point. Does this mean that all Vegans has to amalgamate into their partners' bodies like this when they are married? or what is the exact story?
 You know I just remembered, Gandal's eye beam. What exactly is his head made of? He must have a brain somewhere + a woman + an electronic device. Big head indeed!

Yes, Jerome I get your point of the comparison. And yes, Lady Gandal IS a traitor, there is no argument about that. And she betrayed because of selfishness, not because she understood right and wrong. She wanted to survive, that is all, and I am sure that even if we suppose that succeeded in killing Vega and was given a chance to live peacefully on Earth, she will kill Duke Fleed in the first opportunity.
 She is untrustable, deceitful and selfish. I really have no sympathy for her at all (yet I prefer her 100 times more than Rubina).
 To compare her to women trying to transcend their social conditions is legitimate, after all men and women alike try to transcend their social conditions. Even Gandal was trying that.
 Yes, there are riddles in this mysterious hermaphrodite creature, and the riddles can be interpreted in a million different ways.

About Nagai's views on "women" and his depiction of "women" in Grendizer in particular.....I really don't want to start on this subject. But with utmost respect, your use of the word "conservative" Jerome is very kind. I would use a completely different word to reflect on and describe his depiction of the "woman" in all her forms in Grendizer i.e. all women in Grendizer in every single episode.

Jerome

Minas....TCT and Vénusia le 23/11/2003 à 19:47:12

well Suzi, the word 'conservative' was chosen on purpose. I didn't want to be judgemental because in order to have a proper interpretation on Nagai's point of view on women, I'd need to meet with him and talk about it. I don't want to have prejudices! It wouldn't be fair!

About the fact that Minos and Minas are husband and wife, I don't have evidence for that! I just somehow figured it out with their respective names : Lady Gandal, the lady madame think of a wife, but I may be completely wrong in that matter.
 They could be siblings or androgynous. The latter would be the appropriate interpretation. This would make an interesting reference to Plato's myth of the Androgynous species, a beautiful myth I would say.
 That is of course subject to many interpretations....as usual

Gerdha

Minas....TCT and Vénusia le 23/11/2003 à 22:53:23

Well, actually I would like to underline some more points about Minas. I'll try to explain my POV.

First, I must admit she has always fascinated me. As long as I found her first version scary (she resembles the witch of Disney's Whitesnow, who scared me to death when I saw the movie as a very little child), I was satisfied to see a woman with some power in the vegan army and the clearly man-centred story of Grendizer – please remember that real Hikaru's developm

starts around ep14. In fact, my preferred animes are those where strong female figures are present in BOTH sides: Grendizer (Hikaru, Maria-Grace, Lady Gandal), Jeeg (Miwa, Himika) and Harlock (Yukie, Meet, Raflesia). I read some time ago an old interview of Mr. Nagai where he was asked about his female characters in robotic animes – if I remember correctly referring exactly to Grendizer, but I am not 100% sure – and he told something about how he likes strong women and tried to present female characters which were different from at that time usual approach in Japanese culture. But I would say though that despite his effort to develop strong female characters Nagai unfortunately never had the courage to go straight on the road up to the final goal, unlike Matsumoto (and I stop here, otherwise this should become an MM....).

Anyway, let's go back to Lady Gandal. The Italian edition says explicitly that they are husband and wife at a certain point, but this could be a translation mistake of course. But the couple concept honestly never impressed me actually, and I found it very logical instead. The interaction between the two Gandal's genders are to me enough clear as two different personalities, and not in the sense of schizophrenia or androgyny but in the meaning of two real different persons living in the same body. I never cared much about the scientific feasibility of Gandal, because I was aware since when I was a teen that that character is a sort of symbol. His appearance clearly reminds of Frankenstein, so why not thinking of the possibility of "implanting" his wife in his head? They have a sort of love & hate relationship, as there is something unresolved between them, or like if they "loved" each other so much to decide to become an only body (and please note my use of "" to define the "love"). Lady Gandal is not a female representation of Gandal, she is another person with a different personality, and has also her own grade in the military hierarchy (see for example ep 28, when King Vega asks about her new conditions and they talk about Zuril's arrival). So I don't believe in the androgyn nature of Lady Gandal: Gandal is a very different character from Baron Ashura, and I believe Lady Gandal to be a real woman, while Gandal-Shirei is a real man.

And I don't think that Lady Gandal is such a pure evil character. She has a complex personality, while Gandal's is very simple. And I don't agree, Suzi about her pure selfishness as the background reason of her actions in ep7: Lady Gandal is intelligent, rational and realistic, she understands that Vega Empire has lost the war, and as King Vega is unable to take the proper decisions in such a crucial moment she tries to save what can be saved. I agree with Jerome on the fact that she is unable to kill Gandal though, and that's another reason why I think to the couple scenario instead of the androgyn explanation. Gandal can kill her because his sense of duty toward King Vega is stronger than any other feeling, while this issue does not exist for Lady Gandal and she hesitates to shoot her husband because she knows they are both going to die as they live in the same body. I don't think that Lady Gandal would have killed Duke Fleed if she survived: she openly acknowledged the Vega defeat and anyway what benefit would she have gained once the war is finished?

Finally, I don't see her like a traitor in the strict sense of the word. Rubina is the only authentic traitor in the story, not Lady Gandal. I personally would better assimilate Minas to Colonel von Stauffenberg (the Nazi official who tried to kill Hitler in 1944).

Just my two little cents.

Suzi

Minas....TCT and Vénusia le 24/11/2003 à 01:04:30

Well Gerdha I disagree.

Landy Ganda is a traitor, and she is at least so from the Vegan point of view. Turning against your king is treason for whatever reason.

Selfish, yes she is absolutely selfish. She volunteered to kill Vega in exchange for her life and survival full stop. Yet she is more thoughtful and long sighted than Gandal but she is selfish and manipulative to the core. A woman who manipulates people cannot be trusted. Have you seen her action in ep 15 : how she manipulated Yara? I believe this ep was not shown in the Italian version. Lady Gandal is evil. All her "apparently" good actions are done for evil or a semi-evil purpose.

As for the matrimony between Gandal & Lady Gandal, that was never mentioned in the Arabic version although many might have perceived that way (except me of course). In fact as a kid until ep27, I perceived Gandal as a "living" robot (something similar to Astroganga) rather than a living creature because of the scientific considerations I already talked about. It was only when he had a burn injury that my mind had to accept what it initially denied. Gandal & Lady Gandal is a living creature. But then how come is she? The hermaphrodite concept (and really I don't know what is the difference between a hermaphrodite and androgynous) was the easiest thing for my brain to accept.

And yes, they are part of each other, not two creatures joined together. The other possibility is probably some form of "alien" conjoined twins *persay*. But a husband and wife.....well I am sorry my brain can't digest that. Because then why would they choose to be in one body (mind you Lady Gandal if she did so she would have sacrificed her femininity....she must have had bilateral breast excision and God knows what else probably uterus and ovaries that if she originally had them). Why would any female sacrifice her feminine assets and for what? To inhabit a body of a male for the rest of her life? What if one of them dies because of disease or illness? What if the marriage doesn't work out/ What if they decide to have babies/ What if..... Seems to me pretty stupid and Lady Gandal is 100 TIMES much smarter than that.

Her presence in that form must have not been her choice. She was created that way for reasons that are probably hard to explore. After all she is a fictional creature. And the author needs to explain his views and his choice. But for me I am happy to consider Gandal/Lady Gandal a hermaphrodite (to maintain my sanity).

Gerdha

Minas....TCT and Vénusia le 24/11/2003 à 09:12:32

Well, I am not familiar neither with medical nor ancient myths, but as far as I know an hermaphrodite is a person (=only one body) with both female and male sexual characteristics, and this is not the case of Gandal for sure (where we can suppose it's the case of Ashura instead). The androgyn myth seems to fit better, at least as an overall inspiration, but the design characteristics especially in the first version - are to me far away from Platone's idea. Gandal and Lady Gandal are two different persons, to me this is very clear and the whole anime gives a lot of examples on the matter.

"A woman who manipulates people cannot be trusted."

Oh yeah? And what about men who manipulate people? Where's the difference? Minas is used to live in a world completely ruled by men, she

I am sorry Gerdha, but I perceive this "implantation" as absolute madness. If you think that I am stupid for not accepting that they are married then I am really happy to remain stupid, if you consider what I already said insanity, then I am willing to remain insane. I know too well that this "implantation" thing is IMPOSSIBLE. And if the author wants to take me for a fool then I am sorry because I am not a fool, and if he were insane, then at least I am still sane (in my own way).

Jerome

Minas....TCT and Vénusia le 25/11/2003 à 09:56:15

Well ladies, let's not rationalize that much! It's an anime, a fantasy in many ways. Lady Gandal and Minos are also a fantasy, characters devised by imagination. We must therefore not take into consideration operations and other probabilities of survival in case of surgery in that matter.

I would say that the Androgynous myth by Plato is definitely appropriate for Minas/minos. Indeed, Plato refers to the creation of mankind. In those golden ages, there was 1 gender of humans : androgynous (both male and female or female-female or male-male). But the gods jealous of their happiness decided to separate the androgynous gender in two. That's why ever since each part seeks its other half. We can therefore assume that Gandal could be an androgynous not separated in a sense.

Personally I always thought that Gandal was a member of a special species in the Vegan Empire and that he/she was not one of a kind.

Does it make sense???

Suzi

Minas....TCT and Vénusia le 25/11/2003 à 11:55:44

My point exactly Jerome. I too believe that Gandal/Lady Gandal naturally existed that way. Because trying to join two people together this way artificially is impossible.

He/she is an alien species so we can assume that such creatures could have existed naturally in some alien race.

I am certainly more comfortable with that thought but I have one more comment to make on this phrase.

"characters devised by imagination. We must therefore not take into consideration operations and other probabilities of survival in case of surgery in that matter. "

Yes, Jerome it is a fantasy but all fantasies have roots in real life. And if an author's imagination runs wild beyond acceptable norm and limits, the audience would certainly question these choices and their possibilities.

What I mean is, take for example, the animated movie "Treasure Planet" which is based on the famous novel "Treasure Island". I understand that Walt Disney wanted to create a 21st century based fiction out of it, but seeing "humans" traversing the space on "wooden sail ships" without "oxygen", seems too much of an imagination especially that they addressed the gravity issue and overlooked "breathing" issues. I think that today's kids are too bright to be fooled by such "non-realistic" imagination. It is good to dream and fantasize beyond the real world but questions will be asked, and you must have a "good" explanation for your choices. I hope I have been able to explain myself.

When I elaborated on the "impossibility of Lady Gandal's implantation", I

wasn't trying to show off or ridicule anyone's perception; I was merely trying to reflect why I defy such a theory in a somewhat comic way. And sometimes we have to face real facts to acknowledge the impossibility of one's fantasy

Perceiving Gandal/Lady Gandal as one naturally existing creature is "logically" more acceptable than artificially combining the two. Yes, they maybe perceived as husband and wife by some, but those who adopt such thoughts must have at least asked themselves how is that possible? And it says it is unlikely that they are a husband and wife, because in a way it does not make sense as I elaborated earlier.

If that was really the author's idea of this creature, then with all my respect I would simply say...madness is a bliss.
I hope I am making sense.

Gerdha

Minas....TCT and Vénusia le 25/11/2003 à 11:56:12

Well, honestly I think of Gandal character in a different way. I think that the concept of the character changed during the story - and that's why we face the change of design. If you notice, the change of Minas aspect happens when the story turns definitely in the "adult" script, so it would mean something from a narrative perspective in my opinion.

I believe that in the beginning Gandal was another reference to not-purely Japanese culture (like Actarus, Alcor, Rigel, Banta). He was a reference to the Frankenstein novel, his aspect is clearly a reminder of the Creature. To me, Gandal is the Creature of Vegan Empire, the symbol of what monsters could their science create. Vegans are able to "introduce" Minas in Minos - and I reiterate that for me the kind of relationship they have let me suppose a terrible background story behind that choice - so they have an incredible science level, able to create even such a monster. Gandal has a sort of blind faith towards King Vega, and Lady Gandal has a similar attitude, which let me suppose that they feel gratitude for him for what they have become. On the other hand, King Vega shows a deep respect towards Lady Gandal - while she is instead authoritative towards Gandal - like if she has done something to gain this attitude from him. And I believe this comes from the story of her implantation.

But in ep28 something changes, and the two bodies get mixed in only one. Now Lady Gandal can take control of the body, and this is something she couldn't do in the previous aspect. I find this very interesting: this means freedom for her from a certain point of view: in the first version she could only give advises and orders, while now she can take the lead of the action by herself. Maybe this is a cultural reference to the androgynous myth, even though it does not fit completely in my opinion. Because in the Platonic myth the divided parts search for the other one while in Gandal's case they are somehow in opposition and one excludes the other. It's clear that also in this case the authors referred to non-Japanese cultural references, and considering how much they linked the "aliens" to "Greek-Romans" culture (I have already discussed about this some months ago) it's possible that they re-elaborated the androgynous myth for their purposes.

Agnes

Minas....TCT and Frankenstein le 25/11/2003 à 22:49:07

oohh ... I go away for a couple of days, and now this!

I have no particular opinion about the nature of the Gandal/Lady Gandal entity, except that I always thought of them as separate beings united in a body.

Symbolically, this can signify the union of marriage. It is also reminiscent of the motif of the double (As in Dr Jekyll and Mr Hyde for instance).

As for the possibility/impossibility of implantation: well, we cannot deny that this is a recurring motif in science fiction (the symbionts in Star Trek or more recently in Stargate testify that the idea does exist, whether or not it is realistically feasible).

One of the features of science fiction is that it asks us to transcend the limits of our imaginations. Gerdha mentions Frankenstein for instance, and the Frankenstein she refers to is the 1931 Boris Karloff incarnation.

The original story goes back to 1818, however, and it deals with a man, Victor Frankenstein, who as a result of his mother's death wants to achieve the impossible, to discover "the spark of life" that will allow him to both eradicate death and create life artificially. He sets about this task on his own because for his contemporaries, he goes beyond what is morally acceptable and humanly possible.

The creature is pieced together with pieces of dead bodies, which he chooses for their quality and he uses electricity to bring it to life. Ridiculous, you might say. Yet in 1818, when Mary Shelley and her husband went to lecture about galvanism they witnessed experiments that seemed to suggest that electricity might lead scientists to the secret of life. [The experiment consisted of making dead matter move by running electricity through it]. The idea, the idea that one day scientists might be able to create life artificially horrified her that she wrote Frankenstein

One of the major issues in the novel is the issue of responsibility. Who is responsible for the creature's actions? His creator? The creature himself? Or the parts of his body that were taken from murderers and criminals? Does the creature have a soul? Whose soul? The brain's soul or the hands' soul? In this sense, Gerdha's analogy is very significant here because it works on two levels: first the creature itself. "Which part of me remembers how to play the [musical instrument]" it asks its creator. In a sense this addresses some of the issues Suzi raised about the choices Lady Gandal would have had to make if we accept the "implantation theory".

Secondly, when we think about Frankenstein the novel, we realise that it was written at a time when scientific discoveries were changing the perception people had of the world and of themselves (imagine what it would be like to think that somebody could experiment with your body after your death and make it come alive again!). At the same time, these scientific discoveries were very recent, and nobody really knew where they would lead, or what they would amount to realistically. In a sense, Suzi, anything was possible even the "unimaginable", and this is where the horror of the tale resides.

The true horror of the tale is encapsulated in Victor Frankenstein's seminal of "It's alive!" which expresses both the character's victory and the reader's horror at what they have just witnessed.

The Gandal/Lady Gandal entity is one such figure of horror. In some ways symbolises the perversions of a society in which women are all but excluded from the prevailing organisational and power structures (the only two

examples are Lady Gandal and Rubina, whose power within her society is more than limited). The same can be said about the family structures of such a society - where are the women? How do these people reproduce themselves?

In a sense the Gandal/Lady Gandal entity is a visual expression of the core issue of Frankenstein: there is a natural way of creating life for Victor Frankenstein, his fiancée Elisabeth, but he doesn't make use of this option. Instead, he insists on creating a life all by himself - symbolically he is both mother and father, and some would say that he usurps the physical reproductive role of the mother and fails his creature in the educational and nurturing role attributed to mothers. Of course, everything goes horribly wrong and the narrative, in its attribution of rewards and punishment, condemns Victor Frankenstein and his attempts.

If we consider the story Mary Shelley was inspired to write by the first experiments with electricity, or in other words, the first steps of science as we know and conceive it, and think about the issues she raised back in 1818, we realise that some of these issues she foresaw were still important in 1918 and have become even more so now.

What happens if a person has a heart transplant? Don't they carry in themselves the heart of a person who has died? This idea, though culturally accepted now is still difficult to deal with on an emotional or psychological level, and it may indeed cause a reaction of emotional rejection and horror.

If you had told Mary Shelley's contemporaries that one day, heart transplant would become a reality, they would probably have dismissed the idea, just as they might have dismissed the "possibility" of Mary Shelley's creature ever becoming real.

Strictly speaking, we have not imitated Victor Frankenstein, thank God, but when we think about the transplantation of organs, in vitro fertilisation, cloning (Dolly the sheep), we are not that far behind. It's cleaner of course (we do not steal bodies from morgues and cemeteries), but the questions Mary Shelley asked remain unchanged.

Dr. Christiaan Barnard performed the world's first heart transplant on December 3, 1967, and for many people, lay and professional, this was still a very risky technique in 1978 though it was confirmed enough to have become a reality (barely 11 years later). At the same time, the idea of cloning was becoming more common, even if it was not yet possible to clone sheep (or any other beings).

We perceive our body as whole, as Suzi's reaction suggests, and any incursion into this body is instinctively perceived as an "invasion". When science reaches a new level where scientists themselves don't exactly know what will and will not be possible in the future, anything is possible, the worst as well as the best, in people's imagination. In a sense, this is the difference between science and science fiction - scientists and scientific research "imagine" future possibilities in the scientific mode, whereas writers of science fiction imagine the possible futures these future possibilities might lead to.

In my opinion, Gandal/Lady Gandal are an expression of many fears and anxieties:

- the woman's nightmare expression of her position in a highly patriarchal society - minimised [the Vegans do have that technology, by the way: cf e 29] and relegated to the corner of a man's mind; always at his mercy (he

shut her up easily: he only needs to shut his face)
 - the man's nightmare: an interfering wife/woman/sister/mother? who can interrupt you by opening your face (even in the middle of a business meet with your boss) and comment on all your actions and failures
 - the expression of cultural anxieties that might disrupt the ways in which societies organise their reproductive patterns socially, legally and culturalall [the Frankenstein myth]
 - the expression of the fears generated by a science that is developing too fast in the observer's eyes: like the shrinking technique in ep.29, shrinking woman and implanting her in a man's head (and changing her back again her original size but inside of this man's body) would require a form of science so advanced that our own scientist are not yet able to imagine it.

But science fiction writers are

... sometimes they imagine it as alien, as is the case here, and then it signifies the horrifying technological advantage these aliens, our enemies, have over us (like the Vegan mecha/monsters from living animals - their creation is not "technically possible" either, is it, and yet we accept it as a feature or "reality" of Grendizer without ever questioning it)

... sometimes they imagine it as not alien, as a possible development for our own kind, our own societies, and in this case the horror is even greater. If it is alien, it doesn't touch us in the same way, nor concern us really nor change the things we take for granted about ourselves. Alien science is an expression of an external horror.

In this sense, the Gandal/Lady Gandal entity is only truly terrifying when you consider it from their point of view, or to put it more symbolically, if you perceive it from inside Gandal's head!

(yes - that's at least two points of view!)

Thanks for reading all of this. I hope it makes sense. I'll reread it tomorrow and edit it, if need be.

Suzi

Minas....TCT and Frankenstein le 26/11/2003 à 03:08:48

Agnes, I really get your point and it is true that fiction precedes science, a what we don't know is much more than what we know.

I was so happy as a kid to perceive Lady Gandal/Gandal as a robot until saw ep 27 and then all of a sudden my world of perception was shattered. "IT" which had electronic eyebeams and a little devil resembling a woman its head is a live "HE/SHE" creature..... (I guess you can imagine the shock)

I grew up in a very medical family (my father was a doctor and my mother was a pharmacist....I guess you can imagine the impact of medical knowledge and science on me even as a kid). And now it is even more difficult for me to "accept" such fiction that denies "natural physiology". Luckily most of these fictioners are medically ignorant so they have no problem creating whatever they want. They don't abide by the limitations of the laws of nature. But as an audience who is not medically illiterate or ignorant.....I always have questions and formulate "plausible" explanations abiding by these laws. Of course it doesn't work all the time...and my response would be "well, it is fiction".

One of the major considerations that limits my acceptance to the "implantation" theory is THE IMMUNE SYSTEM.

Yes, you talked about heart transplants. And yes people survive with new hearts, but do you know how they survive and for how long? The transplanted heart is perceived as "foreign" by the recipient body's immune system, and therefore the immune system would react in an aggressive way to destroy it. To prevent this, recipients are doomed to ingest lifelong immunosuppressants that unfortunately also makes them brittle and vulnerable to infections that almost always quite serious. Leave alone the inevitable chronic rejection that results in 5-10 years leading to failure of the transplanted organ and ultimately death of the individual.

People see the bright side of science, we can transplant organs, we can clone, we can create babies in tubes....but do they see the other end, the dark side that they choose to overlook, the agony and dilemma that face doctors in "devising" and innovating treatments for things that are really beyond our knowledge? Do they see the moment when all scientific discoveries and knowledge stand useless in front a person suffering as a result of them and death is the only inevitable outcome? Do they see a person killed or diseased by too much science? Do they see hopes and dreams shattered by undefiable laws of nature?

Yes, we are a creative species but unfortunately we are unaware of the hazards of our creativity. Many years ago we invented and marketed HRT (hormone replacement therapy) as the ultimate cure for menopausal problems, now we are shamefully announcing that it causes breast cancer and heart disease.

Yes, it is a problem of the everchanging science and knowledge.

Going back to our original dilemma of Lady Gandal/Gandal as being one or two. I really find it hard to accept that she was implanted into him even if assume that the Vegans were so scientifically advanced. First question that needs to be answered. WHY

Why would any woman in any species or race want to be deprived of her body freedom, fresh air and sunlight?

Why would any woman sacrifice her feminine assets to live inside a man?

Why if they were married did they elect to live like this, a situation that does not even fulfill the physiological essentiality of marriage?

I was inclined to believe that it was a natural rather than an artificial existence because Nature has its own way of creating "mutations" or "abnormalities" that can survive for years. For example conjoined twins, two individuals sharing one or more organs and body parts. Sometimes the "shared" part is small and can be separated and in others it is too big to separate, yet they continue to survive together and perhaps attempts to separate them may end up in their demise.

A SYMBOLIC CREATURE, definitely he/she is; natural or artificial.....remains a dilemma. Nevertheless in either case symbolism is there and it is quite scary as you said.

Gerdha

Minas....TCT and Frankenstein le 26/11/2003 à 08:47:55

I totally agree with Agnes. I would only add a couple of remarks.

Yes, I referred to Boris Karloff's movie in my previous post but I am aware it's different from the original Shelley's book. What I wanted to mean is that I doubt that Japanese authors of Grendizer had a clue of the original novel (which has all the meanings Agnes has underlined) but very likely knew the Karloff's movie, which is simpler and had THAT personalisation of the monster. So I don't know if Gandal/Lady Gandal can be interpreted that way, Agnes, not because your reasoning is senseless (it IS instead), but because I am skeptical on the fact that Nagai and Katsuta and Komatsuba knew the REAL story of Frankenstein.

For what myself is concerned I had a different reaction when I saw first Gandal's face opening and spotted Lady Gandal IN his head. I thought simply "oh, that's strange. And that woman recalls me Whitesnow's witch..". But I was older than you when I saw Goldrake so maybe that's why I was not so impressed. Anyway, I never had a single doubt that Minos/Minas are two different persons; I never supposed a strange species or hybrid or whatever. I have always believed they were the result of an experiment, and the fact that the character design reminds so clearly of Frankenstein's movie is in my opinion an indirect confirmation of my theory.

Suzi is right asking herself those questions, and in fact I told previously that we can suppose a terrible story behind the scene of the experiment. Considering the Gandal and Lady Gandal different personalities, but most of all the different attitudes THE OTHER CHARACTERS have towards them, I tend to think that there is really an underground story related to the creation of that "form" of a living creature. I have some ideas, but as there are no whatsoever hints in the anime about it, they could be only material for a fanfiction ^_^

Agnes

Minas....TCT and Frankenstein le 29/11/2003 à 13:17:05

Sorry for taking such a long time in answering your posts ... busy as usual

Anyway, I get your point about the ambiguity of technological and scientific progress, Suzi. It is true that if you are given the choice (for yourself or a loved one) of submitting your body, to surgery or any other form of intervention that might extend your life, and live for another month, year, more or less, or doing nothing and dying tomorrow, many people will choose the former. (Though not all, as some cultures object to some kinds of medical practices).

In a sense, science is presented to us as something that can save lives, and in 'western culture', this belief that science can both solve all problems and answer all questions has come to replace metaphysical approaches to these issues. If we consider the kinds of things we expect of it and the kind of things we believe about it, "science" has become the "new religion", an issue that was explored in the Mulder/Scully relationship in the X-Files for instance. In a sense, the new "dogma" of our societies is that only science can provide answers to our questions and solutions to our problems.

Yet, what you highlighted, Suzi, is that science can temporarily help or heal but that ultimately, there will be a point where science becomes 'helpless': for instance the 'host' body rejects the donor's heart, or the medication that is meant to help it 'accept' the foreign body.

In a sense, this is also where the Frankenstein myth is relevant, as you point out, Gerdha: whether we are talking about the 1931 version or the original

1818 novel, it is a story about the physical and ethical limitations of science and the effects of transgression (of these limits); in another sense, if you consider Frankenstein as pinning to systems of values (scientific and metaphysical) against each other, it is clear from both versions that the idea is that the interference of science in the natural order of things is potentially dangerous and should be limited. In Frankenstein the powers of science and scientists are revealed as ultimately limited and forbidden: as Suzi pointed out, science cannot 'eradicate death', only delay it; any attempt at eradicating it is not only illusory, but also morally wrong as it would cause radical alteration of the nature of human beings as well as, in a sense, the meaning of life. Can 'life' indeed, exist without death? What are the consequences of removing the factor of death from life? And, by way of association, what are the consequences of meddling with the 'natural order of things', i.e. extending life by artificial means? Does this too 'change' our status as human beings?

This, in my opinion, is a highly relevant question here, as one answer to the last question (yes) has been used to construct hierarchies between culture and people in this world, as I will argue below.

In the case of Gandal/Lady Gandal, what Suzi suggests about the physical rejection of foreign bodies is highly significant as this is something that we instinctively surmise (emotional/psychological rejection) and know about (general knowledge about medicine and organ transplants). I think that it is because we know or surmise this that the idea represented by the Gandal/Lady Gandal entity is so horrifying: it is, to any 'normal mind' unnatural.

In a sense, this is the function of the kind of science fiction we are talking about, and also the reaction prevailing attitudes to science evoke: to voice the worries and anxieties we may have about science and our relationship with it, as individuals and as groups of people. Science and technological progress are intimately linked to our perception not only of ourselves, but also of our place in the world. Since Darwin, we perceive ourselves as located at the top of the evolutionary scale, and this assessment is based in part on human achievements in the fields of science and technological advance. This is read as a sign of 'superiority' (it makes us 'fitter to survive'), and western society has a sorry record of judging other cultures according to these same values and scale. A less 'technologically advanced' culture is often constructed as a being located somewhat 'down the evolutionary scale'. (cf. the 'prime directive' in Star Trek)

In a sense, then, racism in 'modern' western countries (read since the beginning of the 19th century) is intimately linked with the status 'science' of western societies: it allows 'us' to situate the world population along such scales as the level of 'industrialisation', which in turn leads to a division of the world where the main line is drawn between "industrialised countries" and "third" or "fourth world" countries, a distinction which again 'justifies' interventions, since these cultures are less 'evolved'. [Please note that I am describing the process by which these attitudes are produced, and not my own beliefs about the distinction between industrialised nations and third-world countries. The point is that third-world countries are thus defined according to the values and scale defined by industrialised countries.]

Grendizer both reflects and questions these distinctions and their wisdom, establishing alternative values (mainly those associated with Duke Fleed: love, brotherhood, compassion, respect ...) as important and essential in the determination of what is 'human' and 'advanced'.

To me then, the Gandal/Lady Gandal entity is most powerful as an indictment

of prevailing modes of establishing hierarchies between cultures, if we read their condition as being the result of a transplant (no matter how unrealistic and perhaps precisely because it is unrealistic).

You see, Suzi, I would not say that Lady Gandal was given a 'real' choice, Gandal, for that matter. I think that they can be read as a symbol of a society whose level of scientific development determines both its own position on the evolutionary scale (the Vegans do consider earthlings as 'primitive', which justifies their conquest of earth at all costs) and its internal organisation (not only the relationship between people/men and women, but also the ways in which they are conditioned to perceive themselves). They also reflect back to us our own sets of values and hierarchies in a nightmarish vision of a woman living inside a man's head, something that our 'scientific' minds and our 'human' instincts refuse to accept.

In this sense, Suzi, what is your say about the medical impossibility of such a transplant makes this reading 'necessary' for it to acquire its full symbolic and cultural significance: it is precisely because the Gandal/Lady Gandal entity is physically, mentally and psychologically impossible that it works as a criticism of prevailing attitudes to science and society, and the ways in which predominantly western society has been using science to establish itself in a 'dominant' position economically and financially.

The fact that this is a Japanese anime makes this reading all the more poignant and relevant: indeed, Japan had to do more than a mere reassessment of its own values after the Second World War: it had to accept, within its own set of values, a new set of different, alien values. In fact, it had to start judging itself and its own merits by the standards imposed on them by their own former enemies. Considering Japan's leading position worldwide in terms of technology and science, this is an adjustment that the country has managed brilliantly, though perhaps there was, in terms of values, a price to pay.

Gandal and Lady Gandal, I think, can be seen as symbolising this price in the most disturbing manner we can conceive of: in the violence done to their bodies, with or without their consent, or perhaps most disturbingly, with that kind of mixture of consent and apprehension we would feel about having to undergo surgery. The horrifying part is that they might not have disagreed or felt more rejection.

Thus Grendizer can also be read as opposing traditional Japanese values to values and standards that are perceived as western and even a little alien (alien invasion?!? no ...). In the 1970s, these standards and values had already affected the way Japanese people thought about themselves, even in some cases, this was just an indirect effect. In this light, Danbei's cowboy outfit and Banta's Mexican look take on a different, perhaps even darker meaning: if a character like Danbei, who represents everything that is 'good' about Japanese society and values accepts these 'alien values', Japanese society has already been both affected and 'infected'. In conclusion, then, 'alien values' can have positive effects, when internalised the Danbei-way, but they can also be highly dangerous when applied the Vegan way ...

[Shut up, now! You have talked quite enough]

P.S.: Gerdha, I am looking forward to your fanfiction!

P.P.S.: I hope this makes sense. It was a rather difficult post to write - so if it is less focused on our actual topic: Grendizer
Suzi

Minas....TCT and Frankenstein le 30/11/2003 à 06:15:25

OK that was a LONG impressive analysis as usual.
Can't resist replying.

Your implication that Gandal/Lady Gandal did not have a "real" choice in becoming one makes me wonder..if it were for experimental purposes, or let us say "life saving situation" what was the "aim" of the whole procedure?

OK, if I think like scientists there has to be an aim to justify the means. No one really likes to play God for the fun of it, there has to be a reason (even if it is only apparent to gain public and volunteers' approval). What I mean is we are now playing with stem cells, the explanation we say is that we are trying to find a cure for Leukaemias and hereditary disorders and perhaps defy the ill-regeneration of some tissues if they become damaged e.g. central nervous system tissues. While this might truly be the aim of the majority, it is not definitely the purpose of others.

And yes, by all means my "normal mind" cannot accept that Lady GANDAL/Gandal complex was a result of a "crazy" experiment whether consensual or not even if that was meant to be an indication of Vega's supreme scientific advancement, simply because I cannot see a justifiable reason for combining a man and a woman in the one body. And a very big WHY comes here, and it doesn't only come once but a million times.

Vega in the anime was somewhat presented as a person who loves playing God, but he had reasons for his actions. When he brainwashed some people it was to serve his purposes in the war. Why would he want to create a he/she monster to serve him?

That reminds me of the George Orwell's novel "1984" (It was George Orwell wasn't it?). In that novel which was written in 1948, he prophesied about test tube babies, he even predicted cloning and engineering of individuals with set IQ that corresponds to their jobs in the society. For example the people were leaders and high ranking individuals, whereas the "D" people were servants and cleaners!

Interestingly, he even predicted the breakdown of "family" as a social unit and the abolishment of "marriage" as a form of a social rule between male and females; sex of course was for fun and with no commitments. By all means women were prohibited from having babies, because babies were "created" in test tubes according to strict scientific standards, and were taught in special schools that "parents" didn't exist except in "retarded uncivilized" societies which still believe in "God" and still keep these "silly" morals and values. That "civilized" world was prohibited from questioning these rules that were set by the "government/leading bodies" and were regularly supplied by "ecstatic" drugs to keep their mind off thinking and questioning. It is only when one "test tube baby" creation went wrong that "civilized being" started wondering, questioning and acting against these rules.

By the way, I find "1984" a truly fascinating somewhat very true fiction (or true prophecy of our current world or what might become an unfortunate reality in the next generations).

So are you trying to tell me that a similar world existed in the Vegan Empire where every "being" was a result of "well engineered" scientific experiments? Or perhaps Lady Gandal/Gandal were the "pioneers" of such experiments, and the rest will follow ...some time in the future!

Crazy assumption, but I think that the question is worth asking since you

presented this "he/she being" as evidence of supreme scientific advancement that defies the "normal minds" which consider these things "unnatural".

Gerdha

~ Minas....TCT and Frankenstein le 30/11/2003 à 10:09:59

Well, I don't know Agnes' opinion of course but for what myself is concerned it's exactly my point. I believe that Minos/Minas are the result of an experiment, that both Gandal and Lady Gandal (I reiterate my idea that they are husband and wife and not sister/brother or friends or strangers) volunteered for it for some reasons (sorry Agnes, I can IMAGINE stories but cannot WRITE them in a decent way - maybe I should pass my ideas to Bernie one day, LOL LOL LOL) but that anyway it was somehow a failure as the experiment got never repeated. Maybe Vegan scientists wanted to achieve the second version since the beginning, but did not have the proper technology at the time of the experiment, and later Gandal refused to repeat the operation until he found himself in life danger between eps 27 and 28.

Anyway, I subscribe Agnes' analysis at overall level. I only disagree on the Japanese society points. As I told in a previous post, it's true that Japan had contacts with american and western culture after II WW, but from a social point of view it had some consequences only in big metropolis at the beginning of 70s. The great majority of Japanese did not have contacts with western culture in 1975. So Grendizer was a too much advanced story for being understood (and appreciated) in Japan in 1975 - apart the problem of Koji a secondary figure. I mean, the concept of "aliens" (i.e. people coming from space and/or being "western contaminated") living together with Japanese and being "goods" could not be approached easily in Japan at that time.

Oh, I realise now we have still to discuss about Minas' personality in the end... ^_^

--Message édité par gerdha le 2004-06-18 08:14:38--

Stratéguerre

Messages postés : 100

😊 Posté le 18/06/2004 18:28:11

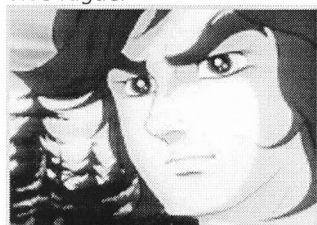


ça, c'est du Monstrogoth Message ! 

Jerome

Messages postés : 68

Vive Riguel



📅 Posté le 18/06/2004 19:13:23



So many memories. I still hang on to what I said some months ago... 

Suzi

Messages postés : 222

I am not an alien but I am unique

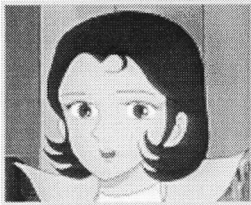
📅 Posté le 19/06/2004 02:51:39



Réponse :

Jerome a dit :

So many memories. I still hang on to what I said some months ago...



And me too! ^ _ ^.

See Fabrice, that is why we couldn't agree on anything and we aborted the discussion; all opinions respected of course.

--Message édité par suzi le 2004-06-19 05:45:53--

"Nothing in life is to be feared. It is only to be understood.".....Marie Curie

Agnès

Messages postés : 76
I'm still an alien! :-)



Posté le 22/06/2004 22:28:17



Réponse :

Stratéguerre a dit :

Gamin, je croyais que Minas était l'épouse de Minos



Hmmm ... moi aussi. En fait, j'ai toujours pensé qu'il s'agissait d'une expression radicale de la patriarchie végane (japonaise?)

Je croyais que les végétariens utilisaient la même technologie qu'ils utilisent sur Atlas afin de pouvoir s'implanter leur femme dans leur tête et la contrôler à tout moment, où alors c'est elle qui a le contrôle?! (I do realise that this is medically impossible, Suzi. Still think it's funny. 😊).



Oui, je me fait rare ces jours-ci. Désolée, mais boulot oblige.
Ciao,
Agnès.

Live long and prosper ...

Agnès

Messages postés : 76
I'm still an alien! :-)



Posté le 22/06/2004 22:31:42



Haaa, Gerdha. At least somebody remembers what I thought!!!! (I sometimes don't, but then I think strange things sometimes 😊).

I remember that Frankenstein discussion, but I'll have to reread it before I can contribute anything at all intelligent ...

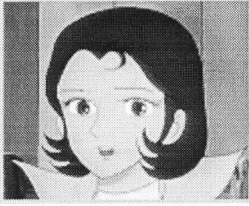
P.S.: my book about symbols is at the office, and tomorrow is our national holiday, so it'll have to wait until Thursday, I'm afraid. Sorry about that.

Ciao, ciao.

Suzi

Messages postés : 222

I am not an alien but I am unique



Live long and prosper ...



Posté le 23/06/2004 04:21:21

**Réponse :****Agnès a dit :**

Hmmm ... moi aussi. En fait, j'ai toujours pensé qu'il s'agissait d'une expression radicale de la patriarchie végane (japonaise?)

Je croyais que les végétariens utilisaient la même technologie qu'ils utilisent sur Atlas afin de pouvoir s'implanter leur femme dans leur tête et la contrôler à tout moment, où alors c'est elle qui a le contrôle?! (I do realise that this is medically impossible, Suzi. Still think it's funny. 😊).

I still stick to my beliefs Agnes, and therefore there is no point for me to enter into a fruitless argumentative discussion about this topic again. But unlike you, I don't find it funny, I find it utterly ridiculous even if it is fictional. Nevertheless I like your joke.

By the way, the device they used to decompress Harouk in ep 29 to my understanding was still novice and experimental, it wouldn't have been possible to it being used in compressing Lady Gandal and fusing her in Gandal's head, otherwise the previous volunteers who underwent this decompression experiment prior to Harouk wouldn't have died. Besides it was stated that Harouk belonged to a particular alien race that had physical adaptability to change in size; Lady Gandal was not mentioned to belong to this particular alien race....so I don't agree with your theory.

Anyway, that is my opinion, and excuse me for not joining this discussion any more as it is beginning to resemble fruitless Byzantine discussions which I don't like because they are a waste of time and effort. As I am not going to change my mind, therefore I don't see the need for me to continue participating in it, but I would like to know what you have to say about the book of symbols.

--Message édité par suzi le 2004-06-23 05:24:30--

"Nothing in life is to be feared. It is only to be understood.".....Marie Curie

Agnès

Messages postés : 76

I'm still an alien! :-)



Posté le 23/06/2004 11:03:25

**Réponse :****Suzi a dit :**

I still stick to my beliefs Agnes, and therefore there is no point for me to enter into a fruitless argumentative discussion about this topic again. But unlike you, I don't find it funny, I find it utterly ridiculous even if it is fictional. Nevertheless I like your joke.

Hi Suzi. I kind of guessed that this is what you feel about this discussion, which is why I added my little comment for *those who remember*. ☺

Anyway, I don't really have the time to join in this discussion either, which is a pity, because I kind of like it. I did go reread our discussion on Forum #2 last night (with a friend who already suspected I was *mad*, and who is now convinced of this ☺), and I think it was a wonderful discussion.

But you're right, it will be difficult to find something new about it. Anyway, my comment yesterday was just a little wink to fondly remembered bygone times (other wink). I'm quite sure that you know that if I had been serious about this discussion, my post would have been *rather* longer ... ☺

edited to add: ah, yes, and I also wanted to say "I'm alive! And I still visit this forum, even if I don't say much these days!", just in case you were developing doubts about this.



And well, yes, I'm also still an alien! ☺

--Message édité par agnes le 2004-06-23 11:31:32--

Live long and prosper ...

Agnès

Messages postés : 76
I'm still an alien! :-)



Posté le 25/06/2004 17:29:49

Have we killed a discussion yet again??! ☹



Live long and prosper ...



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