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charley

re: *phenicia and venusia*

Sun Nov 10 12:38:09 2002

24.69.255.236

has anyone ever noticed when we see phenicia for the first time, she seemed so tough and so "man-like", and as soon as she learned that she was a princess from an other planet she suddenly turned into a "girl" and seemed to have lost that toughness, and the situation is totaly reverse in venusia's case, she first appeared to be a goody-two-shoes and as soon as she got blood from actarus she became that tough girl.

i have watched the entire serie about 2 weeks ago and i was shocked cause i didn't remember the serie to be that harsh, i mean everyone dies but our 4 heroes, all the people that were brain-washed and told to kill actarus even after regaining their minds either killed themself or were killed by vegas. i mean back then every other cartoons had happy endings, goldorak was and still is a ruthless cartoon, even the end is harsh. BUT I LOVE IT...

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Gerdha
 Re: re: phenicia and venusia
 Sun Nov 10 18:24:53 2002
 57.67.17.3

You noted something interesting. But I don't agree completely with you. I won't say that Phenicia turns completely into a girly-like mode after rejoining his brother; for sure in the episodes designed directly by Haraki-Himeno she seems a sweetie but I believe it's because it was a choice of Michi Himeno, who was directly responsible of her drawing. If I think to ep 49-54 as a whole I see more in Phenicia development (a teen facing big responsibilities that sometime she is not able to manage, her link to Actarus who is not only a long-lost brother but more as a father figure, her relationship with Alcor, Procton and Venusia...). Phenicia is an interesting character even if - my opinion - maybe the authors could have developed her better.

I see that everybody thinks that Venusia has a turnment point in her personality after the blood transfusion in ep 27. Well, I disagree. For sure Flead's blood gave her more PHYSICAL powers, but her PERSONALITY started to become strong earlier, from ep 23 at the very least. Knowing Actarus' real identity changed her life and attitudes, and we can see it immediately in ep 24 and 25 (yes, even in the latter).

I would finally add that, in my opinion, one of the few weakness of Grendizer is that the arrival of Phenicia completely shifted the focus from Venusia to her, which is somewhat understandable - a new character to develop instead of an old one more or less stabled - but for me not completely well-managed. Of course both Haraki and Himeno could have been more concentrated on Phenicia, who is a total "their" character instead of Venusia who was a Komatsubara's creature. I find interesting hints of a further development of Venusia even in the Araki era, but they are too much subtle and does not give her the attention she deserves. Just my opinion of course.

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[jérôme](#)[happy ending...](#)

Sun Nov 10 20:12:28 2002

212.198.0.96

I agree with you Gerdha (once more). Phenicia remains a little brat (she can be pretentious, superfluous sometimes and of course strong). She has the characteristics of a teenager faced with big issues early in her life.

As far as the toughness/ harshness of the anime. It is true that most of the characters except for the Heros die. Aphelie in ep. 23 (I just saw it again.) It's interesting to notice that they die (most of them) in order to recover their honor because they realized they had put in jeopardy the future of planet Earth or their own by believing Vega or by being manipulated (brain-washed/ black-mailed) by Vega. I would say that this blood price is rather common in traditional societies (think of the Middle-Ages and of course Japan where ritual suicide Seppuku was the only alternative to Shame).

It may look violent but there are no heroes without bloodshed. I mean that it's the tragedy that shows the real personality of a hero. in a reflexive way, those deaths prove that Actarus is representing the Good. the sacrifices of all those characters who may have helped him destroy Vega earlier, give him credit and help the story to unfold. Imagine One second a patrouille des Aigles with Aphelie, Atlas, Vegalia...and so on. Most of all, it gives the storyline a tragic course that sets apart the heroes. they won't be able to lead a normal life until Vega dies. Aphelie couldn't live any longer because she may have turned Actarus into a husband. It was impossible. The story would have become a fight between Aphelie and Venusia for the love of Actarus for instance which was not the purpose of the series.

At last a final remark: all the tales (snow white etc.) are harsh in a way. Walt Disney may have turned them in manichean soft tales (although Bamby remains very sad for instance) but tales are meant to build the child's psyche showing him the harshness of life in an apparently impossible story or world.

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Gerdha
...some further considerations
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57.67.17.3

"Aphelie couldn't live any longer because she may have turned Actarus into a husband. It was impossible. The story would have become a fight between Aphelie and Venusia for the love of Actarus for instance which was not the purpose of the series."

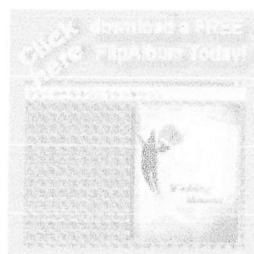
Wow, finally somebody sees episode 25 in my same perspective!!! :-))))))))) And I would add that meeting Aphelie and her suicide is what makes to Venusia's personality another big turnment. She knows that - basically - Aphelie preferred to die anyway because she knew that Actarus won't be alone as Venusia loved him deeply. This reinforced her willingness to do something more for him instead to wait at home for his comeback. So the blood transfusion gives her enough physical powers to do what she had already in mind.

"At last a final remark: all the tales (snow white etc.) are harsh in a way. Walt Disney may have turned them in manichean soft tales (although Bamby remains very sad for instance)but tales are meant to build the child's psyche showing him the harshness of life in an apparently impossible story or world." Absolutely. And this is exactly what "adult world" (parents, psychologists, sociologists, etc...) were not able to understand when animes first arrived in the western world.

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always interesting to read from you...

Sun Nov 10 22:14:53 2002

212.198.0.96

because we share so many similar points of view on Goldorak. Yes Aphelie realized that Venusia was deeply in love with Actarus and she told her so. She also realized that somehow she was a part of Actarus' past whereas Venusia was a part of his current life. Therefore I do believe that it's another reason for her suicide apart from the fact that she wanted to make up for what she had done to him. I'm nevertheless a bit disappointed by this episode (although it's one of my favourite). Indeed, Actarus' recovery is far too miraculous (electro shock). But the plot needed him to see Aphelie die so he had to be in Goldorak.

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Gerdha

... thanks! And...

Mon Nov 11 00:31:51 2002

57.67.17.3

"Yes Aphelie realized that Venusia was deeply in love with Actarus and she told her so. She also realized that somehow she was a part of Actarus' past whereas Venusia was a part of his current life. Therefore I do believe that it's another reason for her suicide apart from the fact that she wanted to make up for what she had done to him"

Jerome, you are my hero! Seriously! Have we some kind of mind-connection? ;-) I have your exact same interpretation from years. It's quiet interesting that you get my same impression from ep 25 as the french edition is in some moments slightly different from italian, and when I read the transcription (thanks Bernie!) I thought no one in this forum could agree with my view if I ever post it... Wow, you made my day!

"I 'm nevertheless a bit disappointed by this episode (although it's one of my favourite). Indeed, Actarus'recovery is far too miraculous (electro shock). But the plot needed him to see Aphelie die so he had to be in Goldorak"

Well, I have a theory about the real nature of Actarus "madness"... but I have no time for a MM now...believe me, his recovery it's not a plot hole at all. But I totally agree that he needed to see her suicide too. Ep 25 is a turnment point also for Actarus' personality. (Okay, how many MM have I in my agenda now?)

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