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There we go. Thank you, and thank you to the organizers of this seminar.

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So, today I'm going to present you a very specific, oh, I'm sorry because you're not going to see my face.

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I've got a huge problem with with my camera. So that's my, own little technical, hell.

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Today I'm going to present you, the description of, hell or yeah, a sort of hell by Garth Knicks in the Abortion Chronicles.

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So for those who knows the chronicles, I'm only going to base this paper on the 3 first volumes, Sabriel, Lerrell, and as we're talking about death and, hell, that's going to be maybe themes or image that might be difficult.

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I'm gonna try to give you the the heads up if I'm not too too much in.

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For those who haven't read, the Chronicles, I'm sorry, there is going to be a lot, a lot of spoilers, but I can't do a, otherwise.

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Now before we go into the Abbasus Chronicle per se, I would like you to take you to a journey through the different representation of the underworld.

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Throughout antiquity and all the traditions. Let's begin with who may and. So Odysseus, needs to go to the underworld to patch some, advice from, And I'm not sure about the Greek pronunciation.

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I'm sorry. The witch is going to give him instruction as to how to enter the web and the direction she has.

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He has to go through to communicate with the dead. So first of all, I would like to try your attention on the specific geography because you're going to see that.

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There's some common point in the different, depictions. First of all, there are some kind of attempt to, very general geography.

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But what most important thing had is there are the different river. Mainly the rivers text, which name comes back a lot in those representation, but you also have the left day, which is the the river of oblivion.

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The castitis the river of lamentation The famous background from which you actually enter. The underworld.

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And the flagaton which is actually a river of flame. Now, from the different themes in, in this, going this journey to the underworld, there's going to be a lot of very critical and typical themes and might teams that are going to come back a lot in the descriptions of health.

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First of all, Odysseus is met by Epinor, who is a former companion and Epinor is dead without being given the rights.

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He's not buried. So he's asking for audiences to actually bury him properly.

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And this is, one of the things that are going to come back, you know, when the dead are not properly buried, they ask and they plea for the living to actually do that for them in order to rest in peace.

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Now, there's another thing that is quite pregnant where artists just actually, meet his own mother that we didn't know that she was dead.

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And also this is going to be a very common scene when the living are actually facing someone they love in the in the underworld.

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Now, audio series is going to be faced by Achilles and Here at least if, if you prepare the Roman, pronunciation.

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And, and antibiotics and heritage are all going to give a very depressing, description of the underworld to give a very depressing, description of the underworld to auditors.

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It's dull. It's really a gloomy. It's boring. Auckily says that it rather be a surf toiling in the land of the leaving than a king of the of the dead.

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So it's really not a place you want to go. Then, you have, a kind of parallel presentation, by Virgil in the, Here again, you can see that there's an attempt of giving us a kind of geography.

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Of the underworld. Now you don't enter the underworld there by a river but by a lake.

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The rivers 6 is really important there, but what's different is that you really have a classification of where, what, which state is going to go depending on the way they die.

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So you have a place for the Warriors, a place for people who committed suicide, the innocent who have been condemned, etc.

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Etc. You still have mention of the different rivers like the sticks and the, And again, you're gonna have very typical themes.

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In it, NS, meets unburied warriors like, they are going to ask, him to give them a proper burial.

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Ens is not going to meet his mother, but his father, and actually that's the purpose of his going to the end of the world because he needs is you need this advice?

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And you're going to see his father's that represents, his past, but it's also, it's also going to be presented with his future, the future of his attendance and the future of room.

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And we're going to see that, time and the realm of the dead are very often linked through different myths.

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Not if we go to Egypt. From the description we have of the book of the dead the realm of the dead is called the so, we have a judgement and the good souls, the good people are going to go to, the fields of reads.

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If not, if you've been bad, you're going to be devoured by Amit, the goddess with the crocodile head.

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And you're going to be cast alive in the leg of fire burning with a brimstone. And now it's going to go for the, very Bruce home depiction of hell.

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Because the Christians are going to really focus on the fire, the punishment and, the eternal, suffering.

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So, we have different doctors and fathers of, the church. Emphasizing the fact that hell is a place for sinners if you sing on earth you're going to go to hell and there you're going to burn in an eternal fire.

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It is not going to know end and you have okay it is dead in the Bible if you go to hell it's never going to hand and you're going to suffer and burn for all the eternity.

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So of course those those letters, the sermons, those right things are going to influence the detection in what the artist in the way they are going to depict the, the afterlife.

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For the buffy fans, you can see a hell map the way it was represented in the in the hours of Katharina plants.

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Of cliff sorry you also have all the architecture linked to the catholic church and cathedral that are going to detect in the in the statuary in the goggles and everything.

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But also in the same glass they're going to give very vivid a picture of what's going to what the seniors can expect if they go to hell.

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And again, you've got Augustine or, San, Ignas of Loyal insisting on the fact that the torment are endless that the flames are going to burn the seniors for all the eternity.

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It goes on even after, the middle ages, with, the, very famous Permanent by Jonathan Edwards with this image of the furnace already burning and waiting for for the tennis.

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So here we have This, this idea of giving a sort of dogma and of, creating.

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And educating the masters to, one truth and, it's also an education by, by fear as you can, as you can see.

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Now, of course, and you can check that on your, bingo, if you, if you have it, of course there's Dante, the blockbuster of, METILE, Next description of hell and the way it depicts it yes you can abandon all hope you answer here because if you're here it again for all eternity.

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Now, William Blake, really took on that idea. And again, you have, this idea of a place of burning of claims, each and all claims of, eternal torments.

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And again, you have, this very precise, even more precise that before this geography of the underworld where every center has to go to a very specific place and always wonder where I'm going to go because I can't choose between the different scenes actually.

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And again, you have, those rivers, the importance of those rivers were separating the different, places in hell, like the acron again, the sticks comes back, you have the, and then, the So again, Dante is, conveying this idea that, hell is the place of eternal suffering of burning.

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And not that Blockbuster, that has really had an enormous influence on the representation of hell is of course Milton Paradise lost.

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Then little nuance and the novelty of Milton point of view is that it is described from the point of view of Lucifer or Satan.

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Again, the. Stressing the fact that hell is a place of torture, of flame of a total term and without end.

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It's a theory that with ever burning sulfur, unconsumed but From, we're going a little bit away from, the, the need of educating the mass to fear from the the need of educating the mass to fearing the God and we have a little political

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Now, how do we know all that's going to happen in death in the underworld? How do we have those description from what?

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Well, that's also something you can take on your, on your video card. That is the voyage in the underworld or in neck here that is the, the calling of, that spirits.

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So the catap is as several, a aim one of it is to show the, of a hero.

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Here you have Hercules actually fighting against sturderers. So, Eric, last or awfully, our artist use anthesus, they are going to show the F, they are going to show how brave they are strong to be, willing to actually face the danger of the underworld office is going to show his attachment and his love but also his his talent as an

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artist. Because that's also one of the main. Team in the capital base is saving the loved one and many cat bases are actually showing the tragedy of being mortal and to be able to love you're gonna have to lose the lost one So I'm not going to go too far on ortho's and already just because I know that the next paper is going to be about that.

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I just wanted to mention that in the Talking actually, used this kind of my theme with as you see on, on the picture, LTN actually going to the whole of Mandos.

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And not completely unlike or she's not going to use the hub but she's going to use her voice.

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To actually and trying to bring back parents from the death and her song is going to be so wonderful and so moving that Mandos is actually going to say, okay, I'm gonna let and see what I can do with, with the boss.

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Now you have another, and I know I didn't mention it in, the earlier depiction of the underworld that you also have the death of Balder and Bader is a god that is beloved by all the other ACEs in in the Scandinavian saga.



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So in the pro-staga, especially in the Guild beginning, You have this, depiction of the journey of her mode.

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Who is going to, to try and fetch back, from, from hell to she is, he's facing the goddess Hellat ring to convince her to bring back Balder.

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So you see that he has to ride 9 nights and he also has to go. Again, Yes, to cross rivers.

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So rivers are really important in the depiction of the underworld. And the number 9 is going to go back again and again.

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I'm not going to spoil you the, if you manage to bring back, Boulder or not.

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Now, I want to make a very, short digression because these counterpaces.

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As given, birth. To some of the one of the trope one of the most common trope in fantasy that is the voyage or the journey into the land of the voyage or the journey into the land of theory and most of the time in those stories.

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Terry and the land of the dead have very similar characteristics, but I don't have time to go on.

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On this. Another very short direction about health gauge which is a story a catastrophe is to by Lauren.

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I wanted to talk about it because it's really close to Dante's depiction and maybe we're gonna have time to come back in the questions but there's something about Gareth Knicks attempt to use modern and antic depiction of of the underworld.

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No, I promise you and this is now that we're going to begin. I'm going to talk to you about the Oberson Chronicles and I'm sorry about the the pronunciation in English because I'm really not I don't know if you say a person or I or some I don't know.

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So it's a series of novels written by Garth Nix who's an Australian author.

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Writer he has published. Sabrell in 1,995. L in 2,001 in the Boston in 2,003 there are other novelists in short stories about the what is called the old kingdom and you also have in 2021 one there's a new novel that has been published that is, 2021, there's a new novel that has been published that is, Eleanor and

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Terstia, but I haven't read it yet. So here from now on, there's going to be So before we go on with, the, And the novel itself, I want you to know the difference between an abortion and a necromancer.

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Most of the time when you read time section and basically, and, fantasy, you know what, Nick, from answer.

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He's basically a witch or wizard, wizard, dealing with death, bringing back dead people, trying to know the future, calling on, dead, That's Pirates.

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Now, in, the Arreston Chronicles, persons and NICOMENTS have common points, but the abortions don't call on the dead.

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They actually send them back into death. This is their job. So they fight Nick from answers. They're really enemies and a person is actually a family name as well as a function because they all belong to the same family line.

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They learn their craft and everything they have to know about the realm of death through the book of the dead they use 9 spell that 9 again that comes back to control the dead and to make them go wherever they they want to go, mainly back into death.

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They use a specific source because they need to fight necromancer's and all sorts of dead spirits.

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They can actually feel death so they can know when people or anyone any creatures is dying when they're not very far and they can also sense the dead that have come back from the realm of the dead.

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And of course they can't answer death. But only their spirit. So they have to leave their body aside, which leads me to my.

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On this last digression, because I really like the, the title, New Romanser and the, the pun on, you, M, and Ncromancer changing only one letter.

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And actually when you see that the database is in the metric is exactly the same as in the abortion.

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You leave your body and under your spirit is going to go to the other well. And that's my last digression, I promise.

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Now, I would like also to focus on, Karl, Gustav, you on the notion of Nikia or Katabases.

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As something more personal and psychological. So, he compared those categories, the journey to the underworld as an infrastructure and a sort of journey to your subconscious to the memory and for him it was a sort of a mean of transformation and like it says of restoration which leads me to one of the best, so here a lot of spoilers.

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So a depiction of how a Boston is going to end. Death. So you rail close the rise to concentrate harder, furrows forming across a forehead, she could feel death now like a cold pressure against her face.

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She pushed against it, feeling his chill. Thank you, our cheekbones and lips, soaking into our outstretched hands.

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It was strange with the sun still hot against their neck. And here in the first paragraph, I didn't know for you, but for me it's like a birth.

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She's actually trying to push between the The veil or the frontier, the border between death and life and it's like actually a kind of strange birth into death.

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And then it, when you go on, you're going to find all the tropes that we have seen in terms of the geography and the characteristics of the underworld.

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It grew colder still and colder as the chill moved up her feet and legs. She felt a tug against her knees, a tug that wasn't one of the dogs gentle reminders.

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It was like being gripped by a current that wanted to take her away. And force her under. She opened a rise, a river, again a river, flowed against the legs but it wasn't the rattling, it was a black, it was black and opaque and there was no sign of the island, the blue sky or the sun.

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The light was gray, great and dull, as far as you could see, out to a total flat horizon.

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That's probably the best. illustration I found about of the the RAM of the death in a garnik's novel so you have absolutely nothing there's only the river and a gray light and this is absolutely all there is And it is described this this water is almost tension because it's trying to take all this periods and the people are coming into death.

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And drug them away. So it's a river that's always flowing to, towards the last gate, we're going to go back to the, I just wanted to focus on the fact that Do, opaque and black, water is what Basha, the way you describe, you know, the water in all Garland post poetry.

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Those black water that have actually heavy with death with mourning, with all the regrets of the dead people and you're going to see where it's going to lead after that.

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So, they're going to be, and I let you, guess how many, gates they're going to be in hell.

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So the first 6 one are all about water, the waterfall, it's the river going down and up.

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Because there's also water climbed. The whirlpools and you go from one gate to the other, following, well, she, the different characters that are going from one gate to the other, I have to use, some kind of magic.

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But it's really all about water. I suppose that after the 6 gates, Nick Gas said, I have to change because I've used waterfall a lot of time already so I really have to to change.

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And it did because, again, you have, not only the water of the river but fire like we still in Milton, this link between fire and and water but here the fire is absolutely not an eternal fire of punishment or of suffering.

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It is just here to to show the frontier between 2 different different games. Well, in the illustration it is the wrong color, but, you know.

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Artistic, license, I suppose. And you have, the 8 gate and here you have total darkness, a little bit like it is described in the old ancient depiction.

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It's really cold, it's dark, it's so dark that actually, the character cannot see but cannot feel or hear anything.

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And so there's, you'll read, talking, it kind of reminded me of the tunnel in Paris, Kerry's angle.

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So it was really, really afraid that it's going to be a huge spider, but for the IRACK NOPE, AREAGNOS will be a reader, the reason you can go on.

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Then the ninth precinct. So you pass, the 8 gate. And then all of a sudden you have like a really brilliant light there's a presentation of complete and mastically because you can see the sky above in the rest of the the pristine and gate you couldn't see anything there was no like you got stars and the current is actually faded away because all the dead that was that the water was heavy

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with were actually they're actually rising to the stars. And I come back to, you know what I told you, when I was talking about actually one of the characters what they called a remembrance.

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Sir, so she has to travel through the, on the world to actually. Access, memories of the past.

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And the further she goes into death. The further she can recall things that's happened and she has to go to learning everything to remember something very precise.

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I'm not going to spoil that to you. No, for a very long conclusion.

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What is really, interesting in, the Abberson Chronicles is that it's a mix of very different influences, but it really focuses on the importance of water.

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And, maybe you're next, well, that need to be, addressed because there's water even not in there.

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Walter is really, important in, in the way, in ride. So that's this mix of water and fire.

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Reminitant to Milton. There's also this importance of going back to death for rescuing your loved one because oh, that type of, because one of the character not going to say which one has to go into that to in search of a father and I'm not going to tell you if you find her him or not.

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So that here it has new name. There's new name like, H or, any other place.

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It's just death with capital D. It's not a place of torment. It's not a place of punishment.

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There is no demon there. No, God or any kind of, being, raining on it.

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The different gates actually, Can, represent some kind of stage through that.

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So you have this river taking slowly all the debt people through the different gates towards the ninth gates that is kind of Well, the mystery still.

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So that the journey is, also like all the, databases that we've said before, a way to prevent, to prove their love to, prove their psychological strength and as most of them are really young you can see that they also are coming of age through a lot of well facing death actually.

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So, it's used this traditional and ancient imagery, but with very modern idea of psychological introspection.



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The depiction of death is no longer a way to educate the masters into a dogma, but a place of transition, of transformation through a journey to find the courage to go on and let go of the living world.

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When the time has come or to face one's fear and demons.

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Thank you.

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Thank you so much, Gaia. Oh, I love the kitty.

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Okay.

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But if you want to know, who is the Kidd you have to read the book actually and actually I think that those who have read the book I recognize both the cat and The dog.

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Thank you.

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I now it's on my list. I'm really interested. Great jobs. Let's open up for questions.

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You can feel free to type in the chat or just raise your hand. Looks like we already have. A raised hand.

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John, go ahead.

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Hi, thank you very much. I, I like these books quite a lot and you will enjoy when you get to read Kerschel and Eleanor which is also a good one.

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Yeah.

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I have one little and thank you for the tour of the River of Death. I have a question just kind of a speculative one and then also one thing for you to look into.

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The question is, and I don't think this is in any way a troubling spoiler.

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At the end, anyone who gets through, into the ninth precinct. And looks up into the sky whether they are evil or good cannot resist moving on and it's described as either Bliss fall or, peaceful.

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I would just be interested in any thoughts you have about Garth Nix making that choice for the end.

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And then the quick comment I wanted to make. Double check you said there's the app portions used 9 bells I'm pretty sure it's 7 bells, and that 9.

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Oh, did you take me care? Did you take a?

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I. Well, maybe.

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Yeah, there's the 9 bright signers, but only 7 of them became bells.

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Yes, yes, there's none. Yeah, sorry. There's 9 gates but yeah there's 7 bells why did I stay 9 I don't know 7 but 7 is also a very very symbolic number yes thank you it's not 9 it's 7 yeah yeah thank you So, as for the 9 spring thing, that's very interesting actually because it

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doesn't matter if you're good or bad. There's no notion of a sinner.

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This description of death is that we're all going to go there. And it's not you know a place you go when you stay it's really a process.

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And, well, John, you've read, the book so you know that flowing water is very very important.

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And actually you've got this movement from the moment you, entered depth because you're gonna die.

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And it's really a sort of progression, transformation a little bit like you actually just depicted.

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And, there's The impression that at the end, the entrance, the water is really dark.

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It's really opaque. And when you arrive at the end the watery has cleared up as if All the dead, had had the time to let go.

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The net go of everything that links them to, to life. I mean, loved one regrets, remorse is maybe I don't know, and, it is also said, I believe that the father in depth so every time you pass a new gate it's going to be harder for your spirit to go, to go back to life.

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So it's really a transformation and a progression. And, I would just like because I didn't have time to talk about it.

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One regret I would have is that When you read all the, the catapases, what is important is actually Not only, the journey of the hero.

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Through death but the coming back because as you said in the 9 spring it's almost impossible to resist and one of the character is very close to not accomplishing our mission.

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Because of the call of the stars. So actually, it's, probably one of my regrets, that you don't have the travel back.

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It, Gutnik doesn't show how the characters are going to go back. I think it's abriel we have a little depiction on how she's managing to go back, but she only went to the, third or fourth gate.

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So Lorel goes to the ring of gates. I really would have liked to know how hard it is for her.

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To go back to life. Actually, that would have been very interesting.

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Yeah, the returns are done rather quickly. That's, that's interesting.

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That you point that out.

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Right, any other questions, comments? Connections.

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Since I'm not familiar with the text as well, I have just a question about your connections, Gail, which I found really interesting.

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You talked a little bit just in this response. About transformation. And I wondered if you and and the connection to the river, I wondered if you could talk even more about This won't surprise you the link between the geography and the passing through of the body through particular spots of geography and what that means for life and to death.

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Well, actually that's probably one of the, of the most, Interesting point because.

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Well, you see, you saw in, in, illustration, there is no real geography.

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You've got The river and actually I write Sabreel twice once because I was offered the book And then, when I knew that I was going to do the paper, I read, Sabreel for the second time and I remembered.

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That she was actually, traveling inside cave. In my imagination, I put caves and rocks, were actually, garnicks doesn't depict any sort of things.

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There is nothing but the river and that great light. And, and actually, apart from what I told you, some mists and the waterfall.

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Geography seems to be, not, you know, like the underworld of all where you have a classification where specific.

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Are going to go. Actually, there's no nothing specific because everybody is going to follow exactly the same.

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Unless they are, Nicholas or under the, the control of necromancer's that going to try to go back.

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So, here, it's, one of the very interesting things that he kept.

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Hmm.

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That geography, very, There we blurry actually. So, I don't know if other, we just have, gone through that, but my mind actually put things familiar probably from the antique stories from and everything that we're actually not there so I think it's one of the very interesting things about Nick's that uses things that we

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are very familiar with. But he actually twisted them because there is No geography because for him I think but that's only my interpretation.

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Yeah.

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There is no classification of. Of the dead and actually that puts The abortion, it's really a very interesting character and function.

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Because it's in a way. A character, who is going to contact, all the necromancers attempt to cheat death either theirs or other people and that character is going to be the one to make death easier.

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Hmm.

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More natural. Especially, for themselves and the loved one and It's complicated because an abortion, to be in the Boston has to wait for the other person who can be their father, their mother, their own, the uncle, someone they know and that most of the time they know and they love.

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They're going to have to wait like kings, the death of another. So this abortion character is really, Really, interesting.

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And I think I'm going to, to delve a little bit more because this is a kind of First impression, the paper.

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Yes.

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But it's really interesting that compared to, don't is for example or or any other the geography is is Yeah, it's really blurred.

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So the reader has to. Put on their own ideas and their own representations.

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Hmm. That's fascinating.

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Anybody else have a question, comment?

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I could. Thank you. Lovely fascinating paper. Things I hadn't thought about because you're right, death is a very cloudy realm in this one.

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It's been a little while since I've read it. When I read it, I was really struck by how isolated the character is because she just, you know, Sorry, Dad's dead.

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You're the necromancer now. Off you go. By the way, the world's in crisis, off you go, without piles of companions.



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But I was also really struck by by she starts out at this very sheltered girls school and yet it's a magic academy where they're learning the proper rules of magic in this really fundamental grounding and even though the other girls are not necromancer's, we see them step up later and yes, we all have the training to deal with this.

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Girls, for your circle, do your thing. We have all the trade egg in the planet, we're all ready to go.

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And it's kind of like the end of Harry Potter if we didn't have a Slytherin group.

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Yeah.

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And we all ask the question, why do we allow Slytherin to be at the school? Anyway, I My question was, anything to say about the isolation versus the grounding versus the support from the peer group.

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That's very, very, interesting question. Actually, while preparing my paper, I thought about, first, abriel, but then Lerial, I made a company reason.

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My mind, with actually Buffy. Because, it's It's a little bit like Buffy.

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You're there's only one Slayer. For 7 season there's only one slayer but so many vampires and here again you've got only one of them so many nichromancers so many dead is especially for So yeah, that's a nice, and.

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And what is interesting is that you see Stabri-L, all the characters that have to go into death, that's what I said.

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They are very young. And it is also stories about that transformation a little bit like Harry Potter too.

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They don't have a choice. All of a sudden they are, they have to pace.

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The, the dead, the death of loved ones and, incredible responsibilities. And you see that, Sabreel goes from, this, young, scared little girl and he's going to take on a very important role and you're, gonna see, our son that he kind of resent that a little bit because she's always trying to fight some

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kind of destiny, from here that are dead arising there. So yeah, it's very interesting.

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That this particular function makes one completely isolated you know, with great powers.

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Thank you.

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I think Jonas a question.

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Yes.

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Well, or just to follow up, I actually presented a paper on these books yesterday and in terms of the one of the things I talked about that's relates to the isolation that you mentioned.

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There's a lot of, most of the adhorse, in the series are orphans and the absence of their mothers, in the series are orphans and the, absence of their mothers is especially emphasized.

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Some of them, some of them have mothers who are emotionally dead to them. Some have mothers who are actually dead and some have mothers who are both emotionally dead and then later actually dead.

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So, there's a lot of, isolation in that sense as well.

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Well, thank you. I wanted to, to see your paper and then, I went to another one but I'm certainly going to, to listen to the recording because actually I went under, but apparently you talked about hell.

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On earth. So, that's very, That's very interesting. And I really want to know because, I really think that you master, Gerthnicks and the Oberson Chronicles way better than I do because this is my first paper on it.

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I'm not sure about that, but they're complementary. Your papers wonderful.

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Thank you. Thank you very much.

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Oh.

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Perhaps a collection. Is in order for you got 2. Start gathering it all together.

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Maybe.

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Yeah.

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And, How did they sit with the Avengers? Assemble. The Borsen assembled.

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Yeah.

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Yeah.

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That's right. Okay. Anybody else have a question or comment for Gian?

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Thank you.

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If not, let's clap, send love. Great job. Another. 2 read on my list, Kyle.

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Thank you.

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Thank you so much.

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Yeah.

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Well, if you want to read it, my job is done then. Thank you, and sorry, and for the, producing my, face just like that, but, Thanks again and thanks Kami for being such a great.

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Moderator.

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Always, hopefully see you in the next panel everyone.

01:00:01.000 --> 01:00:05.000

Oh yes.

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Bye bye.