

THE *COUNTESS DOROTHY*: A THEME OF LOST LOVE



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1. Introduction

In H. Beam Piper's story "Graveyard of Dreams", Conn Maxwell comes home to the planet Poictesme, after attending university on Terra. He takes a contragravity airship from Storisende, the capital of Poictesme, to his hometown of Litchfield in Gordon Valley. The airship is not given a name; and when he disembarks at Litchfield, he is greeted happily by his family and friends. Special emphasis is placed on his girlfriend, Lynne Fawzi, who waited for him during the years he was away at school on Terra, and who hopes he waited for her as well.¹

But when Piper expanded "Graveyard of Dreams" into the novel *The Cosmic Computer*, the airship that takes Conn home to Litchfield now has a name, the *Countess Dorothy*; and when he arrives, he is greeted by his family and friends.² Not only does Lynne Fawzi not appear, she isn't even mentioned.³

Because of Beam's known love for James Branch Cabell's tales of Poictesme, which made him want to emulate Cabell's writing style,⁴ I decided to check them out myself. The first one I read was *Jurgen*, and in it, I quickly discovered that Beam's decision to name the airship has more significance than simply another allusion to Cabell. Because the *Countess Dorothy* is in fact a reference to lost love.

2. Lost Loves

In the early chapters of *Jurgen*, we learn that Countess Dorothy is the lost love of Jurgen, whom he romanced for a summer when they were teenagers. She was Count Emmerick's second sister, known as "Dorothy la Désirée", whom Jurgen called his Heart's Desire; "the only woman whom I ever loved." With the confidence of youth, Jurgen left on a quest "to become a duke or an emperor or something of that sort", in order to be worthy of Dorothy's hand.⁵ But only a few months after his departure, she married the nobleman Heitman Michael. Now in middle age, Jurgen meets his lost seventeen-year-old love again, when the Centaur Nessus takes him on a fantasy version of time travel, into the Garden between Dawn and Sunrise.⁶

Piper's airship *Countess Dorothy* therefore seems to refer to Lynne Fawzi, Conn's girlfriend in "Graveyard of Dreams", who waited for him five years while he was away at school on Terra, but whom he subsequently 'lost'. For in the process of expanding "Graveyard" into *The Cosmic Computer*, Beam removed all references to Lynne, but added the name of the airship.

In *The Cosmic Computer*, Conn is "twenty-three" years old, and was "seventeen" when he left for school on Terra.⁷ These ages are not mentioned in "Graveyard of Dreams", but it is reasonable to assume they are the same. Thus, Conn and Lynne began dating when they were both teenagers, just like Jurgen and Dorothy. In addition, both Lynne and the Countess Dorothy are blonde. Lynne has a "red-lipped face tilted upward with a cloud of bright hair behind it", also referred to as "the gleam of Lynne's golden hair".⁸ Likewise, Dorothy is "a gold-haired woman, clothed all in white".

Beam never revealed the color of Lynne's eyes, and those of Dorothy are left ambiguous by Cabell as well. Jurgen muses that "the color of her eyes stayed a matter never revealed to him; gray, blue or green, there was no saying; they varied as does the sea".⁹

And, just as Jurgen planned to marry Dorothy when he returned from gaining a title, Conn has been planning to marry Lynne ever since he went away to earn his degree. He mentions "The hopes he had built for Lynne and himself", which probably started even before he left for Terra, and continued over his years at the University of Montevideo.¹⁰

3. New Loves and Lost Female Airships

Of course, lost love is usually followed at some point by finding a new one. After Jurgen's heart was broken by Countess Dorothy, he romanced a number of women. "[T]he game he played for the longest while, with many brightly colored playmates who took the game more seriously than he did". But Jurgen finally settled down some years later, with a woman named Adelais, the "handsome daughter" of a pawnbroker, subsequently referred to as Dame Lisa.¹¹

Not coincidentally, after Piper removed Lynne Fawzi (who feared that after Conn left, he would, like Jurgen, play the field and "get mixed up with...those girls on Terra"),¹² he gave Conn a new love interest; Sylvie Jacquemont, who appears sometime later in the story.¹³

Sylvie's French name—and that of her father, Yves Jacquemont—makes perfect sense, because the planet Poictesme is named for Cabell's fictional province in medieval France. This means the Countess

Dorothy (“Dorothy la Désirée”) and Adelais were both French girls.¹⁴ And similar to the handsome Adelais (though probably more like the beautiful Dorothy), Sylvie Jacquemont is very attractive. The only difference is that she’s not a blonde like Lynne and Dorothy. When Conn first meets Sylvie after the Battle of Barathrum, she is wearing “baggy trousers and a torn smock. Like the other [prisoners], she was dirty, but in spite of the rags and filth, Conn saw that she was beautiful. Black hair, dark eyes, an impudently tilted nose.” In the aftermath of the battle, the former prisoners clean themselves up, and Sylvie changes into more feminine attire. By the time reporters arrive on the scene, she “had rummaged an even more attractive costume out of what she called the loot-cellar. The reporters all used up a lot of film footage on her.”¹⁵ Jurgen of course married the handsome Adelais, and at the end of *The Cosmic Computer*, Conn is about to marry the beautiful Sylvie.¹⁶

Piper includes another line which suggests that, like Jurgen, Conn may have played the field on Terra. His mother, Mrs. Maxwell, doesn’t like Sylvie at first. “She didn’t seem to think...that Sylvie’s mechanical skills were ladylike accomplishments. Nice girls, Litchfield model, weren’t quite so handy with a spot-welder. *That was what Conn liked about Sylvie; she was like the girls he’d known at the University.*”¹⁷ Since Conn and Sylvie get romantically attached fairly quickly, this may mean that Conn actually did date some of the girls on Terra, just as Lynne feared in “Graveyard”. But since Lynne was ‘lost’ in the rewrite, there was no girl waiting on Poictesme for Conn to return to in *The Cosmic Computer*, and thus no reason for him *not* to date Terran girls. And if Conn did in fact date Terran girls after ‘losing’ Lynne and before he returned and met Sylvie, this would parallel how Jurgen traveled and played the field after he lost Dorothy, before he returned and settled down with Adelais.

The connection between the ‘lost love’ Lynne and the airship *Countess Dorothy* is further supported by the fact that Beam also connected Conn’s second love, Sylvie, with a female-named airship. But in this case, it is the airship, not the girl, which is ‘lost’. Sylvie’s connection is to the contragravity airship *Harriet Barne*, which is lost with all hands when it is pirated by the Blackie Perales gang.¹⁸ When Conn and his Litchfield Exploration & Salvage expedition travel to Barathrum, they inadvertently rescue the crew, as well as other prisoners. Among them, Conn meets Sylvie and her father Yves, who have been forced to work on the lost airship in order to convert it into a spaceship.

Later, the connection between Sylvia and the airship becomes even stronger, because when the *Harriet Barne*’s conversion is complete, her father Yves is made its captain, at least in the ship’s exo-atmospheric configuration, when they travel to Koshchei, the fourth planet of the system. And Sylvie herself travels aboard the *Harriet Barne* on the ship’s second voyage to that planet.¹⁹

In other words, Lynne is ‘lost’, and then the *Countess Dorothy* (lost love) appears, taking Conn home to Litchfield; the *Harriet Barne* is ‘lost’, and later reappears (and takes Conn to the planet Koshchei), along with Sylvie Jacquemont (Conn’s new love, who helps convert her and later travels on her).

Moreover, it seems a little strange that Sylvie does not accompany Conn on the *Harriet Barne*’s first voyage, despite being an accomplished mechanic. They’re ostensibly going to Koshchei to find Merlin, but Conn’s real purpose is “to fix things up and start them”.²⁰ In that case, why *wouldn’t* you take a good mechanic like Sylvie along? But Conn goes to Koshchei without her, and Sylvie waits for him on Poictesme. Thereby, incidentally, connecting her to the lost Lynne Fawzi, who waited on Poictesme when Conn went to Terra.

In “Graveyard”, when Conn first arrives in Litchfield on the unnamed airship, Lynne Fawzi goes straight into his arms; she’s still his girl.²¹ And in the later novel, something very similar happens. After Conn comes back on the *Harriet Barne*, Sylvie puts her arms around him, which becomes a full-on embrace after a ceremonial barge gives an unexpected lurch. This seems to be the point when Sylvie becomes Conn’s girl. “Over her shoulder, he saw his father and Yves Jacquemont exchanging grins.” Moreover, both Lynne and Sylvie begin “jumping in excitement” when they first see Conn arriving.²²

During the expansion of “Graveyard of Dreams” into *The Cosmic Computer*, Piper therefore appears to have transferred some of Lynne’s characteristics to Sylvie. This means that, in a sense, Conn ‘regains’ his lost love. And that is another element in *Jurgen*.

4. Lost Loves Regained, and Lost Female Airships Regained

In *The Cosmic Computer*, the main character’s lost love, and the lost female-named airship, are both regained. The *Harriet Barne* is retaken from the pirates, and Conn ‘regains’ his lost love Lynne in the new character of Sylvie Jacquemont, who has some of Lynne’s characteristics.

This parallels the fact that Jurgen does in fact regain Countess Dorothy, at least for a short time. After meeting her as a middle-aged man in the Garden between Dawn and Sunrise, Jurgen journeys onward, and comes upon Mother Sereda, one of the *Léshy* (Slavic wood spirits). Sereda controls Wednesday and all things that are blue.²³ Jurgen tells her that he was born on a Wednesday, which should make her his godmother; and as such, she should give her godson a gift. He persuades Mother Sereda to grant him “a second-hand Wednesday...and it will be a Wednesday in the August of such and such a year”.²⁴

The Wednesday in question was twenty years ago, during the evening of which the teenaged Jurgen began to lose Dorothy. At a ball in Bellegarde, and just before he left to try and become a nobleman, the young Jurgen had stood by when Heitman Michael claimed Dorothy for a dance. “And this dance had been the beginning of intimacy between Heitman Michael and Dorothy”, which led to her marrying him after Jurgen left on his quest.

But when Mother Sereda grants Jurgen the Wednesday (and his youth) again, he decides to change history. Rather than letting Dorothy dance with Heitman Michael, Jurgen challenges him to a duel. As an unskilled teenager, however, Jurgen is no match for the older, more experienced Michael. Jurgen loses the duel, but Michael does not kill him. Instead, he simply claims Dorothy for the dance, and turns away. Since this will again result in the beginning of their intimacy, Jurgen treacherously stabs Michael in the back, killing him, and thereby regaining the love that should have been his.²⁵

5. Time Travel

Piper was a great fan of time travel. According to John Carr, “Like the themes of nuclear war and the lost Martian races, time travel was a theme that would appear in many guises.”²⁶ In this case, Beam apparently used Jurgen’s trip into his own past as a model for Conn Maxwell. In *The Cosmic Computer*, Conn’s trip home on the *Countess Dorothy*, with no Lynne waiting for him in Litchfield, can therefore be seen as a trip into his own past; Conn is ‘going home again’, with the distant echo of a lost love.

In fact, Conn actually wishes he could go back in time. “He tried to picture the scene sliding away below instead of drawing in toward him, as though to force himself back to a moment of the irretrievable past.”²⁷ Conn then literally *counts down the minutes* until he arrives, as if going backward in time. “Thirty minutes to Litchfield...Ten minutes...Six. Four.”²⁸

And the next day, he actually wants to change his past. “[H]e was wishing himself back in his dorm room at the University. No, back in this room, ten years ago, before any of this had started. For a while, he imagined himself thirteen years old and knowing everything he knew now, and he began mapping a campaign to establish himself as Litchfield’s Juvenile Delinquent Number One, to the end that Kurt Fawzi and the rest of them would never dream of sending him to school on Terra to find out where Merlin was. But he couldn’t even go back to yesterday afternoon in Kurt Fawzi’s office and tell them the truth.”²⁹

This of course parallels Jurgen, who not only wishes to go back to his teenage years and change his past, he tricks Mother Sereda into actually giving him back his youth, which lasts until near the end of *Jurgen*, when he reverts to middle age.³⁰

Unlike Jurgen, however, Conn is not middle-aged. Nor is he French. But these differences may also have an explanation. Because H. Beam Piper himself was middle-aged (52 years old), and had recently returned from his ‘French Vacation’ with his wife Betty, when he began writing “Graveyard of Dreams” in early 1957. And he was still middle-aged (late 50s) when he wrote *The Cosmic Computer* five or so years later. It gets tricky when trying to attribute story elements to an author’s own life. Nevertheless, Conn’s lost love Lynne, and his later love Sylvie, do seem to have real-life parallels. Thus, there may be an even deeper level of meaning here. So let’s go back in time and review H. Beam Piper’s lost loves.

6. Beam’s Lost Loves

As a native of Cabell’s fictional French province, Jurgen is a Frenchman, and his middle age parallels Piper’s. Moreover, sometime after their French vacation, Beam and Betty moved to France and lived in Paris for a time. That made Piper something of a Frenchman himself, especially since did attempt to learn the language. But as we’ve seen, Jurgen—especially the younger version, which predominates in Cabell’s novel—parallels Conn Maxwell. Two things parallel to the same thing are parallel to each other, so this may mean that Conn’s ‘time-traveling’ trip on the *Countess Dorothy*, with the distant echo of a lost love, not only parallels Jurgen, but also represents a trip by the author into his own past.

That's because "Graveyard of Dreams", which contains Conn's blonde girlfriend Lynne Fawzi and the unnamed airship, was finished in April 1957, when Beam was still in France with his 'girl', the blonde-haired Betty. But by the time he finished *The Cosmic Computer* in February 1961 (in which Lynne is lacking and the *Countess Dorothy* refers to this now-lost love), it was almost three and a half years since Piper had separated from his wife. He had left Betty in Paris, in September 1957.³¹

Like the older Jurgen, the older Beam may therefore have been feeling a bit of nostalgia for his own lost love. And not just for the French-speaking Betty, who like her husband was middle-aged (paralleling Jurgen and his wife Dame Lisa); but Lillian Sheffer, "the Belle of Bellefonte"; "the lovely lady" that the young, twenty-three year old Beam was hopelessly in love with for several years (1927-1931). "I can't ever forget how beautiful she is", he wrote. However, "it appears [she] had another amour and [Beam] was out in the cold." Rather like Jurgen, who lost Countess Dorothy to another amour. "The Belle of Bellefonte was Piper's first great love, but it was unrequited and thus never came into the light of day."³²

Indeed, just as Jurgen regains his youth and Dorothy again, Piper may have wished that he too could be young again, and regain his lost first love, Lillian. With the wisdom and experience of age, he may have thought that if he had approached her in a more determined fashion (as Jurgen does Dorothy the second time around), things might very well have turned out differently.

Placed in correct chronological order, the twenty-three year old Conn loses Lynne (whom in CC he never romanced) but later gains the French-named Sylvie (whom he marries just after the end of the novel); even as the twenty-three year old Beam 'lost' Lillian (whom he never really romanced), but later gained and married Betty, his French-speaking wife. Thus, the name Lynne could have been modeled on 'Lillian', while Sylvie parallels Betty.

Another interesting connection is that Jurgen's aborted youthful romance took place in the castle of Bellegarde, where Dorothy lived with her brother Count Emmerick; while the young Piper's abortive 'romance' with Lillian took place in the city of Bellefonte. Viewed in that light, the Belle of Bellefonte was essentially a 'young French beauty' to the smitten Beam, who—assuming he had read *Jurgen* by 1927 (it was published in 1919)—may well have thought of her as his "Heart's Desire". As he said, "My guess, now, is that my desire for her will be with me always, like a pistol-ball in some inaccessible portion of my anatomy, to give me rest at times and then, at other times, to ache like the very hell". Piper added, "Maybe I'll do a story on that theme, some time." —In *The Cosmic Computer*, perhaps?³³

7. Other Loves Lost and Regained

The present thesis is also supported by the fact that three other major characters in *The Cosmic Computer* lose their loves. At least two of whom regain them by the story's end, and probably all three.

First, Conn's own father, Rodney Maxwell 'loses' his love; his wife, Mrs. Maxwell. She does not approve of all the new businesses he is creating, and fears that the "soulless" Merlin is evil. She doesn't come to Storisende to see her husband and son when the *Harriet Barne* returns from Koshchei, and the strain between the couple builds until she "begged me, in tears, to quit everything we're doing here. I tried to give her some idea of what would happen if I dropped this, even supposing I could; she wouldn't listen to me." By the middle of the novel, she has stopped speaking to her husband (and her son as well). Moreover, the 'loss' includes the fact that Rodney's not at home much, anyway; being at Tenth Army, Force Command Duplicate and Storisende most of the time.³⁴ And finally, when the recorded message of General Travis accuses the Maxwell men of perpetrating a fraud by saying that Merlin exists, Mrs. Maxwell's worst fears are realized. She suffers a complete collapse, and requires hospitalization. If she dies, Rodney will completely lose her, just as Conn completely 'lost' Lynne Fawzi. But Mr. Maxwell regains his love, for after the 'Merlin crisis' abates, his wife recovers, and the family is happily reunited again by the end of the novel.³⁵

The second one is Wade Lucas, an M.D. At first, he opposes the Maxwell men in their efforts to restore planetary prosperity, believing them to be running some sort of scam. This sentiment is shared by his fiancé, Flora Maxwell. Later, he joins Rodney and Conn in their business ventures, since they are able to procure some badly-needed medical supplies; and eventually, Wade even figures out the truth. But although he tries to tell Flora what her father and brother are really doing, she becomes enraged, believing that her fiancé has betrayed her by joining the big Merlin fraud. They have a fight, and she calls things off. As related by Sylvie Jacquemont to Conn, "Anyhow, the engagement is *phhhh!*" But they are later able to talk Flora around, and Wade then 'regains' his love in the end. In fact, they're about to be

married at the end of the novel. It bears mentioning that Wade Lucas is from Baldur, which as we will show is one of Piper's 'French' planets, making him a 'Frenchman' like Jurgen.³⁶

The third one is Mayor Kurt Fawzi. In the short story "Graveyard of Dreams", Kurt's wife is mentioned three times, and if you're not paying close attention, you'd think she doesn't appear in the much longer novel version. Mrs. Fawzi is indeed mentioned in *The Cosmic Computer*—but only once. "Kurt Fawzi was speaking to his wife, interrupting himself to shout instructions to some laborers who were bringing up a contragravity skid." That's it. So Kurt's love is *almost* lost, for if Piper had deleted just one more reference, Mrs. Fawzi would be as thoroughly excised from the Future History as her daughter, Lynne.

And similar to Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell, Kurt's 'loss' includes physical separation, for when Force Command Duplicate is opened, Fawzi believes Merlin is there and refuses to return to Litchfield. Since his wife isn't mentioned again, she probably stays at home. But at the end of the novel, Kurt finally returns to Litchfield, to attend the wedding of Wade Lucas and Flora Maxwell. One would guess—though there is still no reference from Piper—that Kurt is finally reunited with, or 'regains', his 'lost' wife.³⁷

Parenthetically, Fawzi's neglect of his wife is perfectly in character. He disregards everything except Merlin. His office in Litchfield is in "the Airlines Building...where Kurt Fawzi neglected the affairs of his shipline agency, his brokerage business, and the city of Litchfield." And after the city engineer, Abe O'Leary, dies, Kurt doesn't get around to appointing a successor for at least six years.³⁸

Moreover, the lack of later references may have been purposely to keep the matter in doubt. Does Kurt reunite with his wife or doesn't he? And this lack of certainty reflects Piper's own situation. For while writing *The Cosmic Computer*, he absolutely wished to reunite with his estranged wife Betty, but the subject was still very much in doubt. The novel was begun in late 1960, more than three years after Beam left her in Paris, and more than three years before the divorce was finalized in early 1964.³⁹

8. Beam's Lost Love Regained?

Thus, in *The Cosmic Computer's* happy ending, with Conn, Rodney, Wade and (probably) Kurt Fawzi regaining their lost loves (in Conn's case a new one, *a la* Jurgen), it may be that Piper was expressing a veiled wish that his own 'lost love' would be regained. For it is a fact that he never stopped hoping that he and Betty would someday reconcile. On Valentine's Day 1962, four and a half years after they split—and presumably less than a year after he finished writing *The Cosmic Computer*—he wrote in his diary, "Beam Still Loves Betty". Mike Knerr wrote that "Once, when I had had enough rum poured down my gullet to acquire a certain amount of bravery, I asked him if he thought he and Betty would ever get back together again. He squinted at his ring for a moment and said, with emotion, 'I hope so.'"

This continued even during the divorce. Knerr says that, "Like a drowning man clutching at a twig, he hung onto the idea that they would still get back together. He even sold a bunch of guns to have the money to meet her in New York while she was en route from California to Paris on February 26, 1964." Eventually, "the divorce...went through, but Beam never seemed to give up hope." "He wore their wedding ring until the day he died."⁴⁰

Piper's desire to regain his middle-aged wife (and his happiness) is reflected in the happy reunions he gave his characters. And this is also true of his source material. For at the beginning of Cabell's novel, Jurgen loses his shrewish, middle-aged wife (Koshchei takes her away as a reward for Jurgen speaking well of him); but at the end, he gets her back. In the chapters between, Jurgen has many amorous adventures, during the year of his Mother Sereda-granted 'second youth'. But after becoming middle-aged again, Jurgen realizes that he would rather be with the woman who loves him for who he is, with all his faults and limitations. Even while still believing that Dame Lisa just doesn't understand him.

"Jurgen fell to thinking of how unsubstantial seemed these curious months devoted to other women, as set against the common-place years which he and Lisa had fretted through together; of the fine and merry girl that Lisa had been before she married him; of how well she knew his tastes in cookery and all his little preferences, and of how cleverly she humored them on those rare days when nothing had occurred to vex her...of what tempests had been loosed when anyone else had had the audacity to criticize Jurgen; and of how much more unpleasant—everything considered—life was without her than with her...And Jurgen's mood was half yearning and half penitent. "I think I will take her back, Prince," says Jurgen [to Koshchei], very subdued..."For I do not know but it is as hard on her as on me."

But the reunion is not completely amicable. After all, Jurgen was away for a whole year! Dame Lisa therefore gives Jurgen a good piece of her mind, adding that "I am done with you forever", and she

leaves. But despite her vitriol, she takes him back anyway. ⁴¹

As for Beam and Betty, even if a reconciliation had occurred, it would likely have been similarly difficult. For as related by Mike Knerr, when they first separated, “his decision to leave was the only one he could follow. [Beam wrote,] “It won’t do any good for me to go on that trip with Betty in the winter—we’d both be at each other’s throats inside a month.”” They were both strong-willed individuals, as Betty wanted to stay in Paris, while Beam was determined to live in America. “Neither would give an inch”. ⁴²

9. High Garden Terrace

Another element in *The Cosmic Computer* which seems to be connected to Cabell is “High Garden Terrace” in Litchfield. ⁴³ The airship *Countess Dorothy* takes Conn home to Litchfield, and Litchfield is built on terraces along the sides of Gordon Valley, with escalators running between them. ⁴⁴ Litchfield’s slum district, Tramptown, appears to be located at the bottom of the valley, while all the more respectable people live higher up, in “topside Litchfield”. As Tom Brangwyn, Litchfield’s town marshall says, “We don’t even try to police Tramptown any more; we just see to it that they don’t come up here.” ⁴⁵

High Garden Terrace always suggested to me that it’s near the top of Gordon Valley. Conn muses that “Litchfielders loved to watch sunsets”, ⁴⁶ so it is probably on the east side of the valley, meaning it faces west. This would give people a better view of the sunset. As a place where Litchfielders watch the days ending, High Garden Terrace could therefore be referred to as ‘the garden between dusk and sunset’, paralleling the Garden between Dawn and Sunrise in *Jurgen*.

Thus, High Garden Terrace may actually combine the two locations, garden and terrace, where Jurgen speaks with his lost love Dorothy. For to the middle-aged Jurgen’s eyes, the Garden between Dawn and Sunrise appears to be “Count Emmerick’s garden at Storisende”; ⁴⁷ while after regaining his youth from Mother Sereda, he re-enacts his romance with Dorothy on the castle terrace in Bellegarde.

“And presently, when the masque was over, Dorothy and Jurgen went out upon the terrace, to the east of Bellegarde, and so came to an unforgotten world of moonlight. They sat upon a bench of carved stone near the balustrade which overlooked the highway; and the boy and the girl gazed wistfully beyond the highway, over luminous valleys and tree-tops.” ⁴⁸

Jurgen and Dorothy are therefore ‘high’ on the elevated east side of Bellegarde, overlooking the lands below. In fact, they must also overlook lower terraces, for Bellegarde itself is apparently built upon a terraced height. Because when Jurgen leaves Dorothy, “he went straightaway down the terraces of Bellegarde, and turned southward to where his horse was tethered upon Amneran Heath: and Jurgen was feeling very virtuous.” Bellegarde and the terraces on the sides of its hill are therefore paralleled by High Garden Terrace, which is presumably on the east side of Gordon Valley, overlooking the lower terraces. ⁴⁹

A chart showing some of the parallels may now be in order.

| Character | Lost Love | Subsequent activity | Finally marries |
|---------------|---|--|--|
| Jurgen | Countess Dorothy who despite her promise to wait for him, marries Heitmann Michael | Heartbroken at losing Dorothy, Jurgen plays the field for many years | Adelais (Dame Lisa) , a handsome (and originally merry) Frenchwoman |
| Conn | Lynne Fawzi who waits for Conn in GoD, but is ‘lost’ in CC, where the airship <i>Countess Dorothy</i> appears | No romances on Poictesme, but Conn may have dated the girls on Terra, as Lynne feared in GoD | Sylvie Jacquemont an amiable French-named girl, who is found with the ‘lost’ airship, the <i>Harriet Barne</i> |
| Beam | Lillian Sheffer the “Belle of Bellefonte” whom he never romanced, at least not successfully | An unrequited love, so Beam engaged in “biological recreation” with many women over many years | Betty Hirst his ‘French’ wife, who spoke the language and lived in France |

10. 'Lost' Mothers; Mrs. Maxwell, Mrs. Fawzi, Harriet Piper and the *Harriet Barne*

In section 7, we saw that Rodney Maxwell 'loses' his love, Mrs. Maxwell. She views his new career as a businessman and (alleged) Merlin-hunter with grave reservations, and stops speaking to him. She later suffers a complete collapse, and is close to death before recovering. So Rodney 'regains' his love in the end.

But when Rodney first 'lost' his love, Conn Maxwell also 'lost' his mother. She had stopped speaking to Conn as well, since he was in business with his father. This of course means that when Mrs. Maxwell collapsed and was hospitalized, Conn Maxwell was in danger of losing his mother. In this regard, it seems pertinent to note that H. Beam Piper lost his mother after she 'collapsed' (fell down) and was hospitalized with a broken leg. The elderly Harriet Piper seemed to do well initially, but her health soon took a turn for the worse, and she passed away in late August or early September, 1955. A year and four months later, in early 1957, Beam started writing "Graveyard of Dreams". As related by Mike Knerr, "by the 25th of January, he was outlining "Graveyard of Dreams" and commented: "looks as though it's going to develop into a real story." " ⁵⁰

It seems significant that Harriet Piper's first name is the same as that of the 'lost' airship, the *Harriet Barne*. This is "the biggest contragravity ship on the planet", and thus the most important vessel on Poictesme; just as for the vast majority of Beam's life, Harriet Piper was the most important person in it. He was an only child, and lived with his mother until the day she died. Beam habitually concealed his deepest emotions, but it seems certain that he was hit hard by her passing. "I thought I was lucky to find someone like Betty when I married her; now, when mother's death would have otherwise left me utterly alone, I have even more reason to think so. It's bad enough as it is, but without my wife, it would have been very bad indeed." ⁵¹

It can therefore be said that Piper was gutted (or would have been, without Betty) at losing his mother. Similarly, when the *Harriet Barne* is found, it has been "gutted". The outlaw Blackie Perales is in the middle of converting her into an interplanetary vessel, in order to acquire some of the abandoned super weapons on Koshchei. Thus, the *Harriet Barne* is effectively 'dead' as an airship. For after Perales and his band of outlaws are defeated, the owners of the airship come out to inspect her. " "Great Ghul!" the vice-president [of Transcontinent and Overseas] almost howled. "That isn't *our* ship!" " A T&O lawyer adds, "you'll have to realize that this ship, in her present state, is practically valueless." That's because finishing her conversion, or returning her to her previous condition as an airship, could only occur at prohibitive cost. As Rodney Maxwell puts it, "it would almost bankrupt the company." ⁵² Thus, the *Harriet Barne* is in danger of ending its days on the scrap-heap, and being torn down for parts.

Not dead enough? If Blackie Perales had in fact succeeded in converting the airship and taking her to space, the *Harriet Barne* would have been totally destroyed on its very first voyage to Koshchei. For as Yves Jacquemont confides to Conn Maxwell, "Captain Nichols and I were going to fix up something that'd blow the *Harriet Barne* up as soon as he got her out of atmosphere." ⁵³

However, just as everyone's lost loves are regained, and Conn regains his mother when she recovers, Beam 'regained' *his* mother, in the form of the *Harriet Barne*, which is resurrected. A new company is formed, Alpha-Interplanetary, with the *Harriet Barne* as its first spaceship. Her conversion is completed, and she makes several voyages to and from Koshchei.

It is worth noting that, in Christian terms, Harriet Piper died and went to Heaven; while in Beam's story, the *Harriet Barne* is resurrected and goes 'into the heavens', or outer space. Any loving son would certainly wish for his mother to go to 'a better place' after leaving this world. And despite his avowed agnosticism, which in his later years seems to have become outright atheism, H. Beam Piper appears to have been no different.

Incidentally, aside from the *Countess Dorothy*, the *Harriet Barne* is the only other passenger airship named in the book. Both memorialize lost loves; Jurgen's and Beam's. However, the surname 'Barne' suggests that this character is an actual person in the Future History. Assuming so, then 'Harriet Barne' could have been someone who was much loved, but 'lost' in some way.

One can only guess, but since Rodney Maxwell names the first new hypership *Ouroboros II*, in honor of "Genji Gartner's old ship, the one that discovered the Trisystem", ⁵⁴ could the *Harriet Barne* have been named for Gartner's own 'lost love'?

Genji is described as a "scholarly and half-piratical space-rover", as well as an "adventurer", ⁵⁵ which certainly implies that he was a bachelor. In fact, those descriptions make Captain Gartner sound very

much like the half-piratical, half-merchant adventurers in *Space Viking*. Some of these space-roving men are scholars; particularly owners and captains like Lucas Trask and Otto Harkaman, both of whom are bachelors.⁵⁶ In fact, all these half-piratical men tend to be bachelors, since their dangerous profession means that “old age...is not a usual cause of death among Space Vikings”. The general consensus is that “a Space Viking has to have a girl on every planet”, so these wandering adventurers pick up women wherever they can, often resulting in the births of illegitimate children. Some of whom become Space Vikings in their turn, like Roger-fan-Morvill Esthersan.⁵⁷

Moreover, the space-roving Lucas Trask is a victim of ‘lost love’ himself, indicating that Piper was continuing the theme in *Space Viking* (see this paper’s companion-piece, “The Lady Elaine: More Lost Love”). The theme therefore connects the two novels, making it not improbable for the space-roving Genji Gartner to have been in a situation paralleling that of Lucas Trask. Harriet Barne could thus have been Genji’s lost love, whom he romanced as a young man, before leaving to roam the galaxy.

Getting back to this section’s topic, a final ‘lost’ mother is Mrs. Fawzi. Because also in section 7, we noted that Kurt Fawzi ‘loses’ his wife, only to apparently regain her at the end of the novel, when the Merlin-fixated mayor finally returns to Litchfield. But Mrs. Fawzi is also a ‘lost’ mother, since the removal of Lynne Fawzi means that she ‘loses’ her daughter. Indeed, if Lynne Fawzi completely ceased to exist as a character in Piper’s universe, Mrs. Fawzi lost her very status as a mother.

11. ‘Lost’ Fathers; Kurt Fawzi and Klem Zareff...and Beam Piper?

a) Kurt and Klem

Of course, if Mrs. Fawzi lost her status as a mother, then Kurt Fawzi lost his status as a father. Theirs would then have been a childless marriage. And there is one other major character whose love is lost, and who also lost his fatherly status. This is Klem Zareff, a former Colonel in the System States Alliance Army. Klem was a family man, but lost his family in the War. “One minute, he had a wife and two children in Kindelburg, on Ashmodai, and the next minute Kindelburg was a puddle of radioactive slag.” That was “a famous [Federation] victory” forty-one years back, in AE 851.⁵⁸

It is interesting that both father’s names are very similar. Kurt and Klem both have four letters and begin with K,⁵⁹ while their last names contain many of the same letters. They may therefore be modified anagrams of each other. Rearranging the letters of Fawzi can make ‘Zawif’, while rearranging Zareff can make Ffarze. Indeed, if we leave out the duplicated f in Zareff, then both men’s last names have the same number of letters, just like their first names.

If this similarity was deliberate, then Piper may have been subtly connecting these two men who lost their children. Kurt lost one, while Klem lost two. Zareff’s kids are not mentioned in “Graveyard of Dreams”, so they were (created and) lost when Beam wrote *The Cosmic Computer*. Just as Kurt Fawzi’s daughter was lost when he expanded the short story into the novel. Moreover, the connection between Klem and Kurt could even suggest that there once was a Lynne Fawzi, but she died at a young age, like Zareff’s children.

b) Klem and Beam

If we assume that the Fawzi marriage became childless when Beam rewrote the earlier story into the later novel, this would reflect Piper’s own marriage, which fell apart between writing the two versions, and was childless. The effect of his rewrite would mean there’s no way for the Fawzis to regain their lost daughter, and since Zareff’s wife and children are long gone, there was no chance for Klem to regain his lost loves either. And that too brings us back to H. Beam Piper, who while writing *The Cosmic Computer* may have known deep down that he would not regain his lost wife, Betty. Nor his dog, the dachshund named Verkan Vall, which he and his wife may have felt was their ‘child’, and whom Beam lost when he left Vall with Betty in Paris.

As he wrote when he departed Europe, “I am going to miss both Betty and the little dog like the devil. I think Vall is going to miss me too.” Don Coleman added, “He loved and idolized his dachshund Vall, and leaving the dog was a trying experience—especially for a tough guy like Beam who was so hypnotized with adoration”. After returning to America, Piper was “miserable” without Betty and Vall, and he never saw his dog again. For as it happened, Vall soon got sick and died.⁶⁰

As for Betty, when she finally filed for divorce in 1963, he wrote in his diary, "Well I'd been expecting something like this, even if I had been trying to make myself believe that we could get together again. Now I can stop kidding myself."⁶¹ Though "Beam didn't stop kidding himself at all", John Carr notes that the circumstances were very much against a reconciliation.

"They were both stubborn...it's hard to believe that...Beam really expected Betty to join him back in the States—in Williamsport! He was asking her to give up her job, leave her friends in New York and Paris to live in the Bible Belt—not likely. *I think Beam knew he was just whistling in the dark.* On the other hand, Betty was asking the impossible from Beam, as well. She was demanding that he live in a foreign country, after a World War that had left it impoverished (compared to the United States), where Piper did not know a soul, nor spoke the language. From the beginning, he was not happy in Paris and felt like a second wheel to Betty, who had her work and job-related friends. Plus, Betty spoke French fluently and knew her way around, having already lived there for four years. At this point, Beam had made all the sacrifices; he'd given up his country, his friends, his hobbies all for love."⁶²

In support of the Klem-Beam connection, both men were known to carry a cane, which concealed a sword. The difference being that Klem's cane has a silver handle, while Beam's had a gold one. When Zareff is introduced in both versions of the story, he is "leaning" or "tottering on a silver-headed cane". In the later novel, we learn that "Klem Zareff's cane went on the table with his pistol; there was a sword inside it."⁶³

This is certainly modeled on Piper's own cane-sword. Mike Knerr says that he "took a shot of Beam pulling the sword out of his cane", although the photo does not seem to have survived. But Knerr added that "Beam often carried the sword cane as a defense piece. It fit in very well with his manner of dress and no one ever knew that a twist of the gold handle could produce a yard of lethal steel. Needless to say, Beam seldom worried about the puny effect of a switch-blade knife." As, for instance, when he and Jerry Pournelle were accosted late one night in Washington DC, while looking for a liquor store. "On one lonely stretch, we were approached by a young mugger, who demanded our wallets. When we refused, he sallied forth with his switchblade knife. Beam laughed and drew his sword out of the cane, raising it *en garde*, crying 'Aha!' The would-be mugger fled as though he'd just seen a ghost."⁶⁴

Now let's take a brief detour, and look at the French influence on Beam, including on some of his Federation and Interregnum-period planets.

12. Piper's 'French' Planets

a) *The French Influence on Beam*

John Carr says that "Piper truly enjoyed such exhibitions", and despite Beam's undoubted sadness at his own lost loves, it is certainly entertaining to read about him acting like a de Bergerac or a d'Artagnan. It is therefore interesting that, in the years when Piper's stories first began appearing in print, several movies of the time encouraged such gallant behavior. Gene Kelly played an exuberant d'Artagnan in *The Three Musketeers* of 1948 (when "He Walked Around the Horses" was published in *Astounding Science Fiction*), Jose Ferrer won the Best Actor Oscar in 1950 for his humorous, yet moving portrayal of *Cyrano de Bergerac* ("The Mercenaries" and "Last Enemy", also in *Astounding*), and Stewart Granger fought one of the greatest film-duels of all time in the pre-Revolutionary France of *Scaramouche* (1952, when *Uller Uprising* came out in a Twayne Triplet). *Scaramouche* was based on a historical novel by Rafael Sabatini, and we know that Piper was "a fan of historical adventure romances, such as those penned by Rafael Sabatini and Lawrence Schoonover."⁶⁵

Add to this the fact that, in the five or so years between "Graveyard of Dreams" and *The Cosmic Computer*, Beam had vacationed in France with Betty, lived with her in Paris for a time, and even tried to learn the language. As John Carr says, "This move was a major life event", and it "had to have had a major effect on Piper's writing." As indeed it appears to have done. In his next novel *Space Viking*, there are several planets which are named for famous swords of French history and legend; including Joyeuse, Hauteclere, Durendal and Flamberge. These were almost certainly based on Piper's visit to the Louvre in Paris, "where he inspected the crown jewels and the state swords of monarchy."⁶⁶ Particularly since Joyeuse itself is in the Louvre, having been used in the coronation ceremonies of French monarchs since the Thirteenth Century.⁶⁷

This visit may in fact have been the genesis for the entire class of “Sword-Worlds” introduced in *Space Viking*. (See this paper’s companion-piece, “The Lady Elaine: More Lost Love”.) But the French influence also came into play in two of Beam’s Federation planets, both of which appear in “Graveyard of Dreams” and *The Cosmic Computer*. These are Poictesme and Baldur.

b) Poictesme

In addition to the name Poictesme and its capital city Storisende, several geographic areas on Beam’s planet are named for features in James Branch Cabell’s fictional province of medieval France. This includes “the continent of Acaire, to the north” of the mainland, which is named for a forested region Cabell placed west of Storisende; and “Morven”, a continent, island or area named for a plains region of Cabell’s Poictesme, located northwest of Storisende. Another name is Barathrum, referring to a barren volcanic island that Beam placed off the east coast of the mainland. In Cabell, this one comes from ‘beneath’ Poictesme, being the name of an Infernal region Jurgen visits during his travels.⁶⁸

Piper’s Poictesme is therefore a ‘French’ planet. France is renowned for its wines and other spirits, often named for the regions they come from, such as Champaign, Burgundy and Bordeaux. And Poictesme exports brandy, made from “wine-melons” which are grown in places like Litchfield—itsself named after Cabell’s fictional city in Virginia where some of Dom Manuel’s French descendants settle. A glass of Poictesmean brandy is expensive on other planets, like “Terra or Baldur or Uller”;⁶⁹ and exported French wines are of course expensive in other countries, such as America and Canada.

c) Baldur

Aside from Poictesme, there seems to be at least one more French planet among the worlds of the Terran Federation. Several characters in *The Cosmic Computer* were born elsewhere, and later settled on Poictesme. Although Beam did reveal the origin of a few (such as Tom Brangwyn from Hathor and Klem Zareff from Ashmodai), he was not forthcoming about where Yves and Sylvie Jacquemont came from. However, from their French names and deduced connection with *Jurgen*, we can now surmise that it is the planet Baldur, whose capital is “Paris-on-Baldur”.⁷⁰ During his earlier career as a hyperspace maintenance engineer, Yves Jacquemont seems to have been most familiar with Terra, Baldur and Poictesme. He says that “I was in and out of Storisende on these owner-captain tramps for a couple of years before I decided to retire and settle here...The profit on a cargo of Poictesme brandy on Terra or Baldur is over a thousand percent.”⁷¹

Baldur therefore seems to be another ‘French’ planet, similar to Poictesme. Beside the name of its capital city, Baldur’s French nature is also suggested in the Fuzzy novels. Judge Frederic Pendarvis met and romanced his future wife on Baldur, and her first name, Claudette, is French.⁷² I don’t believe her maiden name is revealed, but if it too was French, Claudette might then have been a native of Baldur.

Thus, assuming that Yves and Sylvie Jacquemont came from Baldur, Beam may have been subtly connecting two of his French planets; Baldur and Poictesme.

Of course, Poictesme is by no means an exclusively French planet, as evidenced by a great many characters, such as Conn, Rodney and Flora Maxwell, Kurt Fawzi, Klem Zareff and Morgan Gatworth. One would then infer that Baldur is likewise not completely French, and this is supported by the character Wade Lucas, who comes from there.⁷³ (Similarly, Frederic Pendarvis could have been a native of Baldur, rather than someone who traveled there from another planet to study law.) But since its capital is named for the original Paris, Baldur may have a higher-than-average number of citizens with French names. Assuming so, then the settlers who established Paris-on-Baldur could have come from formerly French areas of the Southern Hemisphere of Terra.

c) The Possible French Colonization of Baldur

How might this come about? Well, Piper says that the Northern Hemisphere of Terra suffers “Complete devastation” in the Fourth World War and its aftermath (AE 106-119),⁷⁴ and France would naturally be among the nations which are destroyed. After the war, the center of Terran civilization moves to the Southern Hemisphere. This is “the new civilization in South America and South Africa and Australia.”⁷⁵ The largest formerly French possession south of the equator would be the island of Madagascar, which is not far from South Africa. Other former, or possibly still-French areas which could survive the war include Gabon and the Congo Republic in central Africa (both lie mainly south of the

equator), and New Caledonia and French Polynesia in Oceania. These areas could see an influx of French refugees from the Fourth World War.

The Interstellar Era begins a little more than 70 years later, with the flight of the “First expedition to Alpha Centauri, 192 A.E.”⁷⁶ And we know that Baldur is one of the earliest planets to be colonized. “The first extrasolar planets, as they had been discovered, had been named from Norse mythology—Odin and Baldur and Thor, Uller and Freya, Bifrost and Asgard and Niflheim.”⁷⁷ A literal reading of Piper would make Odin the first Terra-type planet found, with Baldur being the second. Baldur could therefore be colonized early in the Third Century; say, AE 205.

This is less than a century since the end of WWIV. By the time Baldur is discovered, there could still be enough of a distinctive French community on Terra, and possibly other places in the Solar System, to be able to mount a colonization venture. In fact, part of their reason for leaving may be to preserve their culture, which is slowly but steadily melting away into the increasingly-homogeneous “new civilization” of South Terra. This process begins after the Fourth World War, when Terra becomes a “Completely unified world, [with the] abolition of all national states under a single world sovereignty”, meaning that all Terrans are now “one nation”.⁷⁸ And this melting pot persists for the next several centuries, until in *Four-Day Planet*, circa AE 495, it is stated that with “The amount of intermarriage that’s gone on since the First Century, any resemblance between people’s names and their appearance is purely coincidental.”⁷⁹

The abolition of nation-states is probably connected with the eradication of separate languages. In turn, this is likely part of the process of making “one nation” out of all Terrans, in order to prevent any more Atomic Wars, which are caused by “Too many thermonuclear weapons and too many competing national sovereignties.”⁸⁰ We know that national idioms like French and German are replaced by a new universal language, called *Lingua Terra*. This is described as “An indiscriminate mixture of English, Spanish, Portuguese and Afrikaans, mostly English.”⁸¹ All four of these are major languages in the Southern Hemisphere; Spanish and Portuguese in South America, Afrikaans, English and Portuguese in southern Africa, and English in Australia and New Zealand.

But notice that French was not included in *Lingua Terra*, despite there being French speaking areas in central Africa, Madagascar and Oceania! This exclusion may be justified, due to the relative scarcity of French speakers in South Terra, compared with those speaking the four major languages. But this result would certainly be an aggravating circumstance for any proud Frenchmen who survive WWIV.

Thus, one good reason for a Franco-centric expedition leaving the Solar System for another star would be to preserve the French language, certainly an important part of French culture. Of course, medieval English was significantly infused with Norman French, after the Conquest of 1066, and at least some of this would pass into *Lingua Terra* via English. But the lack of French being a major contributor to *Lingua Terra* suggests that it is no longer a major language after WWIV. It might be in danger of extinction, even without the development of *Lingua Terra*.

Thus, Baldur may have been colonized by a largely French expedition, whose main goal was to preserve their language and culture. By extension, the success of this venture would probably induce other Frenchman to emigrate there, with two major results. Baldur becoming a largely ‘French’ planet (or at least more French than any other planet), and the remnant French community of Terra and throughout the Solar System shrinking to insignificance. Any Frenchmen still living there would slowly but surely intermarry with other ethnicities and nationalities, thereby blending into the unified culture of the mainstream Federation. Only some personal and place names would survive.

Of course, non-French Federation citizens would also emigrate to Baldur, which over time could bring its culture more in line with that of the other worlds. Baldur’s French character would remain, but be largely subsumed by the *Lingua Terra*-speaking culture of the larger Federation; perhaps paralleling how Louisiana’s Cajun culture is subordinate to mainstream American culture.

And now, let’s return for a final look at our theme of lost love in *The Cosmic Computer*.

13. A Few More Loves, Lost and Sometimes Regained

a) *Chloris and Anaitis*

There are a few more lost loves in Beam’s novel, two of which are related to James Branch Cabell. Indeed, Jurgen himself appears—in the form of a planet, since all the planets of the Alpha Gartner system

are named from the works of Cabell. While the story takes place on Poictesme and Koshchei, the other planets given names by Piper are Jurgen, Janicot and Horvendile.⁸²

The planet Jurgen is mentioned as having at least two spaceports, Chloris and Anaïtis.⁸³ These are named for two of Jurgen's lovers, whom he marries and lives with for a while, as he wanders through the lands in his year of second-youth errantry. In Cabell, Anaïtis is the Queen of Cocaigne, and Jurgen becomes her Prince Consort, until he was "compelled to leave Cocaigne with the Equinox".⁸⁴ Anaïtis then sends him to Leukê, where he meets Chloris, a Hamadryad. Jurgen, now self-styled King of Eubonia, marries and lives with her until Leukê is conquered by the Philistines.⁸⁵

These loves are therefore 'lost' but not regained.

b) The Helen O'Loy

In *The Cosmic Computer*, all the interplanetary ships used in the Trisystem during the System States War are found at Sickle Mountain Naval Observatory on Koshchei. One of these is the *Helen O'Loy*, whose home port had been Anaïtis, on Jurgen.⁸⁶ Just as Anaïtis (and Chloris) refers to a wife who lost her love, so does Helen. "Helen O'Loy" is a short story by Lester del Rey, published in *Astounding Science Fiction* in 1938. Helen is a household robot, modified by Dave (a mechanic) and Phil (a medical student) to do other chores, but it develops emotions, and falls in love with Dave. "Dave...initially rejects her advances, but after some time he marries her and they live together on his farm." When Dave eventually grows old and dies, Helen persuades Phil to assist her in deactivating, or 'dying', so she can be buried with Dave.⁸⁷

So in this case, the lost love is a man, whom the 'woman' regains, though only in a tragic manner. We should also mention that Helen O'Loy is "a play on [Helen of Troy](#) and "alloy" "⁸⁸ This is also interesting, because Helen too appears in *Jurgen*, as the Queen of Leukê, and to Jurgen's eyes she is the very image of his lost love, Dorothy la Désirée.⁸⁹

c) The Awful Truth

Piper mentions "the Awful Truth" several times in *The Cosmic Computer*. This is usually in regard to the 'awful truth' that Merlin does not exist, a truth which Conn Maxwell and his father are withholding from their business partners, the Fawzi's Office Gang. These partners are all focused on finding Merlin, because they (and indeed the general public of Poictesme) believe that it will solve all their problems when they find it. If the Office Gang knew that Merlin didn't exist, they would just give up and go home; returning to their previous apathetic existence of not doing anything to help themselves. So the Maxwells lie, saying Merlin does exist, in order to secure their cooperation in ostensibly searching for Merlin, while they pursue their own clandestine goal of restoring planetary prosperity.

Later, the phrase becomes the "revised Awful Truth About Merlin". This now refers to the discovery that Merlin does exist after all, having finally been found at Force Command Duplicate; and the reason the Federation Military suppressed that fact was because Merlin had predicted the end of the Terran Federation, back at the end of the System States War. The fall isn't going to happen for a couple of centuries, but Merlin computed that if the prediction were made public, disaster would quickly follow. People all over the known galaxy would lose hope for the future, and the Terran Federation would not fall in two centuries, but within fifty years; and not peacefully, but in an interstellar cataclysm of death and destruction.⁹⁰

However, "the Awful Truth" may also refer to a lost love, who is later regained. Because that's the name of a film from 1937, based on a 1922 play, which deals with the breakup and pending divorce of a married couple. In *The Awful Truth*, mutual suspicions of lies and infidelity cause Jerry Warriner (played by Cary Grant) and his wife Lucy (Irene Dunne) to separate. They both get involved with other people, but then jealously try and sabotage each other's new romance. However, "Jerry and Lucy slowly overcome their pride and a series of comic mishaps in order to admit "the awful truth" that they still love one another. They reconcile at midnight, just before their divorce is to be finalized."⁹¹

Thus, Beam's mentions of an "Awful Truth" may include an underlying, subtle reference to his own life. As we've seen, he was still very much in love with his estranged wife Betty when he wrote *The Cosmic Computer*, and never stopped hoping they would reconcile one day. The 1937 film is also notable in that Lucy Warriner keeps the couple's dog when they separate.⁹² Very much like Betty Piper, who kept the dog she shared with Beam, Verkan Vall, when her husband returned to America.

14. Conclusion

In both “Graveyard of Dreams” and *The Cosmic Computer*, H. Beam Piper mentions James Branch Cabell.⁹³ But beside his superficial borrowing of names like Poictesme, Storisende, Acaire and Morven, there does appear to be a deeper level of meaning to Beam’s usage. As revealed in *Jurgen*, this is the theme of lost love.

Young Conn Maxwell’s girlfriend, Lynne Fawzi, disappeared when Beam expanded “Graveyard of Dreams” into *The Cosmic Computer*. And since that made her a ‘lost’ love, the previously-unnamed airship that takes Conn home to Litchfield was christened the *Countess Dorothy*, after the lost love of Jurgen. Then, when Piper gave Conn a new girlfriend, Sylvie Jacquemont, he reversed the ‘lost’ part, connecting Sylvie to another female-named airship, the *Harriet Barne*; this ship being lost when she was pirated by the Blackie Perales gang. And we showed that these two ladies, the blonde-haired Lynne whom he lost, and the black-haired Sylvie he later marries, parallel Jurgen’s loves; the blonde-haired Dorothy whom he lost, and the (presumably) dark-haired Adelais he later married.

Piper extended the lost love theme to his other major characters. Conn’s father Rodney loses his love, Mrs. Maxwell; Wade Lucas loses his love, Flora Maxwell; Kurt Fawzi loses his love, Mrs. Fawzi; and Klem Zareff lost his loves, his wife and children, in the System States War forty years ago.

But Jurgen regains his love, Countess Dorothy, when he travels back in time thanks to Mother Sereda. Similarly, Conn wishes he could go back in time and change the past, then he regains his lost love in the form of Sylvie, whom Beam gave some of Lynne Fawzi’s characteristics; Wade Lucas regains his love when he and Flora reconcile; Rodney Maxwell regains Mrs. Maxwell after she recovers in a hospital from a nervous collapse; and Kurt Fawzi (presumably) regains Mrs. Fawzi when he finally returns to Litchfield at the end of the novel.

We saw that Cabell may not have been his only model, since this theme echoed Beam’s own life. Lynne Fawzi can be seen as a parallel of Lillian Sheffer, the youthful Beam’s lost love; and Sylvie Jacquemont, Lynne’s ‘French’ replacement, parallels Betty Piper, his estranged, French-speaking wife who lived in France. In fact, Beam seems to have paralleled Cabell’s characters as well, with himself and Lillian paralleling Jurgen and Countess Dorothy, and his middle-aged self and middle-aged wife Betty paralleling the middle-aged Jurgen and his wife, Dame Lisa.

Thus, Piper may have fulfilled his prediction, circa 1927, that he might someday write a story about lost love. As he wrote after ‘losing’ Lillian Sheffer, “My guess, now, is that my desire for her will be with me always, like a pistol-ball in some inaccessible portion of my anatomy, to give me rest at times and then, at other times, to ache like the very hell”. “Maybe I’ll do a story on that theme, some time.” And we saw that this theme seems to pervade *The Cosmic Computer*.

The Cabell/French influence on Piper’s story is reflected in his French-named characters and planets, like Sylvie Jacquemont and her father Yves, and the planet Baldur with its capital Paris-on-Baldur. Plus the planet Poictesme itself, named for Cabell’s fictional province in southern France; and the other planets in the Alpha Gartner system, named after his characters; Jurgen, Janicot and Horvendile.

Moreover, High Garden Terrace in Litchfield, where Conn was reunited with his lost love Lynne after being six years away on Terra, and where Litchfielders “loved to watch sunsets”, parallels the Garden Between Dawn and Sunrise in Cabell, where Jurgen first met his lost love Dorothy after losing her twenty years previously. The terraces of Gordon Valley, on which Litchfield is built, also seems to parallel the terraces of Bellegarde, which was apparently built on a hill. And in particular, the balustrade of Count Emmerick’s castle of Bellegarde, where Jurgen and Dorothy spent their last evening together in a “world of unforgotten moonlight”, before he lost her to Heitman Michael. The name ‘Bellegarde’ also has an interesting connection with Bellefonte, the Pennsylvania town where the young Beam tried to romance Lillian Sheffer, before losing her to another amour.

Such was Piper’s attention to detail, that even his minor references have hidden meaning and interesting connections. For example, the planet Jurgen has two ports, Chloris and Anaitis; and these refer to two of Jurgen’s wives that he loves and leaves during the ‘second youth’ granted to him by Mother Sereda. Another is that Jurgen encounters Helen of Troy, who appears the very image of Countess Dorothy, his lost love. And in his tale, Piper included the interplanetary ship *Helen O’Loy*, a play on Helen of Troy, named for Lester del Rey’s story about a female-named robot who falls in love with a human, loses him when he dies, and then rejoins him in ‘death’ by deactivating herself.

And finally, “the Awful Truth” being hidden by Conn and Rodney Maxwell, that Merlin does not exist, and later found to be false, may also be a reference to lost love. For “The Awful Truth” was a 1937 movie in which a married couple split over disputes that could have easily been worked out, but later they realize they still love each other, and reconcile before their divorce is finalized. This could be a hidden reference by Beam to his own split from his wife Betty, which occurred over nothing more serious than menu prices at a restaurant; and his strong desire to reconcile with her, which lasted until the day he died.

We know that James Branch Cabell was a big influence on Piper, because he’s the first author Beam mentions wanting to emulate. “In the early days, as soon as I’d discover a new favorite, I’d decide that I was going to write like him. I was going to write like James Branch Cabell, which would have taken a lot of doing.”⁹⁴ One reason a lot of effort would be necessary is that Cabell used anagrams and wordplay in his stories, “to hide additional messages in his prose for discovery by the diligent reader.”⁹⁵ For example, the city of Storisende is a play on “story’s end”, and in the novel *Jurgen*, the Philistine gods Vel-Tyno, Sesptra and Ageus appear to be anagrams of “Novelty”, “Phrases”, and “Usage”.

Beam certainly appears to have followed suit, by including anagrams and wordplay in his own works. One example is the Old Martian city of Kukan in “Omnilingual”, which seems to be a transliterated form of his own surname, “Piper”. Like many other writers of his time, Beam was “fascinated by the red world and its Lost Civilizations”,⁹⁶ and this was apparently his way of ‘signing his name’ to the mysterious Red Planet; of ‘making his mark’ or ‘staking his claim’ to its vast historical and literary potential.

Another example is ‘Conn’ Maxwell, who ‘cons’ the people of Poictesme into believing that they can find Merlin, when he is sure that they can’t, because he has been informed by the man who should know, General Foxx Travis, that it doesn’t exist. Conn cons his fellow Poictesmeans for a good cause, which is to motivate them to take the actions necessary to restore planetary prosperity. But the double-n in his name seems to be a subtle hint that there’s actually a *double* con-job going on. As indeed there is. Conn himself was conned by General Travis, because Travis himself was the head of Project Merlin during the System States War. But just as Conn was lying for a good cause, so was Travis. His reason for denying Merlin’s existence was to prevent “the whole Federation breaking up into bloody anarchy” at the news that Merlin had predicted the end of the Terran Federation.⁹⁷ Thus, Conn is out-conned by ‘Foxx’, whose name suggests a wily nature, with the double-x subtly connecting his name (and con) with Conn’s.

It is possible that when Beam rewrote “Graveyard of Dreams” into *The Cosmic Computer*, he considered merely changing Lynne Fawzi’s role. Similar to Countess Dorothy in *Jurgen*, Lynne could have married someone else, after Conn left on his adventure to better himself (paralleling Jurgen “becoming a duke or an emperor or something of that sort”) at the University of Montevideo. However, since there is no mention of her at all in *The Cosmic Computer*, Lynne seems to have been erased from the Future History altogether. A ‘totally lost’ love. And if Piper had deleted just one more reference to her mother, Mrs. Fawzi too would have been totally lost, there being but a single mention of her in the novel.

Assuming that the present paper’s thesis is essentially correct, we see once again that John Carr was more right than he knew, by stating that “*Beam...did nothing by accident*”.⁹⁸ The ‘Last Cavalier’ was truly a master at placing subtle references, with hidden but appropriate meanings, in his work.

ENDNOTES

1. Introduction

1. H. Beam Piper, *Federation* (New York, NY: Ace Books, 1981), pp. 178, 179, 180, 181
2. H. Beam Piper, *The Cosmic Computer* (New York, NY: Ace Books, 1963), pp. 1, 7-9 When I first read *The Cosmic Computer* around 1978, the only 'Dorothy' I had ever heard of was the one from Kansas, in *The Wizard of Oz*. So I thought Piper named the airship for her. This was consistent with the Surromanticist movement mentioned in his novel, which involved the rediscovery of pre-Atomic fantasy tales, including those of Cabell, Spencer and Rabelais. It made me wonder if L. Frank Baum had made Dorothy a 'Countess' of Oz in the later books of the series. In the third book, *Ozma of Oz*, which I read in 1985, he did have her become a princess of Oz; while in the sixth book, *The Emerald City of Oz*, he had her move to Oz permanently, and Ozma made her wear clothing more appropriately for her royal role. But it wasn't until I read *Jurgen*, sometime around 2015, that I realized my initial impression was wrong, and that Countess Dorothy was in fact another Cabell reference.
3. Conn's younger brother, Charley (Piper, *Federation*, pp. 180, 181), also disappears. But Beam seems to have rewritten Charley Maxwell into the character of Charley Gatworth, the son of Morgan Gatworth. Though Anse Dawes seems to be Conn's best friend, Charley Gatworth is also pretty close to his erstwhile 'brother'. He accompanies Conn's expedition to Barathrum (he's in command of the gunboat *Vampire*; possibly a subtle reference to 'blood', or kinfolk), and later helps Conn set the course for Koshchei aboard the *Harriet Barne*. On Koshchei, Conn and Charley team up again, "teaching themselves and each other hyperspatial astrogation". (Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, pp. 87, 136, 162, 177)
4. John F. Carr, *H. Beam Piper: A Biography* (Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Company, Inc., 2008), p. 79

2. Lost Loves

5. James Branch Cabell, *Jurgen* (New York, NY: Grosset & Dunlap, 1919), pp. 22, 26 Mentioned as being published "by arrangement with Robert M. McBride & Company" in 1927
6. *Ibid.*, pp. 16-33
7. Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, p. 8
8. Piper, *Federation*, pp. 180, 181
9. Cabell, *Jurgen*, p. 22
10. Piper, *Federation*, p. 178

3. New Loves and Lost Female Airships

11. Cabell, *Jurgen*, pp. 9, 22, 27
12. Piper, *Federation*, p. 181
13. Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, pp. 101-102
14. The name Poictesme is a combination of Poitiers and Angoulesme, which are the medieval spellings of two French cities, Poitiers and Angoulême. (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Poictesme>)
15. Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, pp. 101, 115-116, 119
16. Cabell, *Jurgen*, p. 27; and Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, p. 248 That Conn begins with a blonde love, but later marries a black haired one, is also seen in the novel that Beam wrote next, *Space Viking*. There, Lucas Trask loses his (apparently) blonde love, Lady Elaine Karvall, and later marries the black-haired Lady Valerie Alvarath. This is more than coincidence, since Beam appears to have modeled Cabell in that novel as well. See my paper "The Lady Elaine: More Lost Love".

17. Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, p. 119, emphasis added

18. *Ibid.*, p. 3 Apart from the *Countess Dorothy*, the *Harriet Barne* is the only other airship given a name in the book. One then wonders if she too was named for a lost love. 'Harriet' suggests Piper's mother, Harriet Piper, who Beam lost more than a year before beginning "Graveyard of Dreams". See **section 10**.

19. *Ibid.*, pp. 136, 164-165

20. *Ibid.*, p. 142

21. Piper, *Federation*, p. 181 Actually, there is a good story reason why Sylvie does not accompany Conn on the first trip to Koshchei. And that's because only 15 men are going on the trip, which is more or less a reconnaissance mission; and all are experienced captains, engineers and spacemen. (Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, p. 132) They're going to Koshchei to see what they can find, what shape things are in, and stake some claims. The real work will begin on the second mission, after they have a better idea of how many people, and what kind, they will need to get things running again.

And Sylvie plays a major part in gathering the second crew. Conn is initially skeptical about Sylvie going along this time, but she tells him that "If you expect to get any kind of a gang together, at least a third of them will be girls...I'll bet there are a thousand girl technicians out of work here [on Poictesme]—any line of work you want to name." She then makes a telecast appearance, asking for volunteers, and Conn hopes she'll be able to recruit 50 girls. If his guess is accurate, then women make up only one-sixth of the *Harriet Barne's* second crew of 300 persons. But if Sylvie's estimate is better than Conn's, then 100 women accompany 200 men, making up one-third of the crew. (*ibid.*, pp. 164, 165, 175)

22. Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, pp. 162, 163; and *Federation*, p. 180 It may not be a coincidence that Lynne waits for Conn in Litchfield, and Sylvie greets Conn in Storisende. Lynne, Litchfield; Sylvie, Storisende. That can explain why Piper chose 'Sylvie' for the name of Conn's new love, rather than some other female French name.

4. Lost Loves Regained, and Lost Female Airships Regained

23. Cabell, *Jurgen*, p. 40 "Mother Wednesday is a genuine figure in Russian folklore, with Sereda (literally "the middle") being the Russian name for Wednesday." ([Wednesday's Woman | VoVatia \(wordpress.com\)](http://www.vovatia.com/2012/03/23/wednesday-woman/))

24. Cabell, *Jurgen*, pp. 44, 45, 46

25. *Ibid.*, pp. 52-58 But it only lasts until midnight, when the second-hand Wednesday is over. At this point, Jurgen becomes a middle-aged pawnbroker again, and Dorothy becomes the middle-aged wife of Heitman Michael again. Jurgen now finds Dorothy repulsive, and leaves her. (*ibid.*, pp. 58, 59)

5. Time Travel

26. John F. Carr, Introduction to *Federation*, p. xii

27. Piper, *Federation*, p. 174

28. Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, pp. 1, 6

29. *Ibid.*, p. 27

30. Cabell, *Jurgen*, pp. 44-46, 324

6. Beam's Lost Loves

31. Carr, *Piper Biography*, pp. 116, 126, 128, 132-133, 167

32. *Ibid.*, pp. 46-49

33. *Ibid.*, p. 48 And as shown in this paper's sequel, "The Lady Elaine: More Lost Love", he continued the lost love theme in *Space Viking*, following the Jurgen model even more closely.

7. Other Loves Lost and Regained

34. Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, pp. 31, 133, 162-163, 164, 165, 187, 188 The middle-aged Mrs. Maxwell, who disapproves of the activities of her middle-aged husband Rodney, therefore parallels the middle-aged Dame Lisa, who disapproves of the activities of her middle-aged husband, Jurgen. Both couples are separated in their respective stories for an extended period.
35. *Ibid.*, pp. 234, 235, 241, 244, 246
36. *Ibid.*, pp. 29, 30, 32, 38, 42-44, 126, 164, 188, 209, 210, 247 And see section 12, **Piper's 'French' Planets.**
37. *Ibid.*, pp. 10, 75, 76, 83, 170, 249
38. *Ibid.*, pp. 49, 60-61
39. Carr, *Piper Biography*, pp. 165-166, 183

8. Beam's Lost Love Regained?

40. *Ibid.*, pp. 133, 137, 173, 179, 183-184; sourced from Michael E. Knerr, "Piper," unpublished manuscript in Carr's possession, dated 1983, pp. 31, 172, 195, 213
41. Cabell, *Jurgen*, p. 352
42. Carr, *Piper Biography*, pp. 133, 134; sourced from Knerr, "Piper," p. 78

9. High Garden Terrace

43. Piper, *Federation*, p. 178; and *Cosmic Computer*, p. 6
44. Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, pp. 6, 26
45. *Ibid.*, pp. 7, 8, 35
46. *Ibid.*, p. 26
47. Cabell, *Jurgen*, p. 19
48. *Ibid.*, p. 51
49. *Ibid.*, p. 59 The difference being that Jurgen and Dorothy look out over the parapet toward the east, while on High Garden Terrace, Litchfielders look toward the west. One then wonders just how high High Garden Terrace is. If it is close to the top of Gordon Valley, then Litchfielders should be able to watch the sunrise, as well as the sunset. In "Graveyard of Dreams", Conn is reunited with Lynne Fawzi at the Airport Building, which like High Garden Terrace seems to be on the top level of Litchfield. (Piper, *Federation*, pp. 178, 179) In *The Cosmic Computer*, Conn is reunited with Sylvie when he flies back to Litchfield; they walk and talk together on the Mall, which seems to be on the next-to-highest level of the city. (*ibid.*, p. 198; and *Cosmic Computer*, pp. 6, 120, 121)

11. 'Lost' Mothers; Mrs. Maxwell, Mrs. Fawzi, Harriet Piper and the *Harriet Barne*

50. Carr, *Piper Biography*, pp. 114, 124; the former sourced to Piper, letter to Frieda Coleman, September 4, 1955, pp. 1-2; the latter sourced from Mike Knerr, *Piper*, p. 61 The *Harriet Barne* is not mentioned in "Graveyard of Dreams"; it appears in *The Cosmic Computer*, when Beam began emphasizing the decline of law and order.
51. *Ibid.*, p. 114; sourced to Piper, letter to Frieda Coleman, September 4, 1955, pp. 1-2
52. Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, pp. 102, 118, 122
53. *Ibid.*, p. 103

54. Ibid., p. 150

55. Ibid., p. 4; and *Federation*, p. 176

56. Until the end of the novel, that is, when Trask is about to propose to Lady Valerie Alvarath. But by this time, he is no longer a Space Viking, having become the civilized prince of a civilized planet.

57. H. Beam Piper, *Space Viking* (New York, NY: Ace Books, 1963), pp. 9, 33, 131, 176, 230, 232

11. 'Lost' Fathers; Kurt Fawzi and Klem Zareff...and Beam Piper?

58. Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, p. 66

59. One might think that Klem is short for "Klement". But that doesn't seem to be the case, because Piper never calls him anything except Klem. Similarly, the 'Con' in Conn Maxwell should be short for 'Conrad' or 'Connor', but Beam never calls him anything except Conn. In contrast with these two, Beam calls Conn's father by both the long and short form of his name; Rodney and Rod.

60. Carr, *Piper Biography*, pp. 133, 135, 145

61. Ibid., p. 179

62. Ibid., pp. 134-135, emphasis added Carr also says that Piper "was as stubborn as a jackass, and had been pampered for fifty years by a doting mother. The Prince wanted it all his way, but so did the Princess—and she had the bigger dowry. Beam, however, was as hard as the flint of his Kentucky rifles when it came to sticking to his guns." And, "Betty...was no shrinking violet, either. A career woman, at a time when they were still a minority, as well as a divorcee living by herself in New York City, Betty had no problem living in France—with or without Beam." (ibid., pp. 132-133)

63. Piper, *Federation*, p. 182; and *Cosmic Computer*, pp. 9, 12

64. Carr, *Piper Biography*, pp. 180, 181, 191 The story of the mugger is referenced from Jerry E. Pournelle, conversation with author, Studio City, CA, February 12, 1980.

12. Piper's 'French' Planets

65. Ibid., pp. 71, 79

66. Ibid., pp. 116, 121, 126, 127 Carr's meaning is that the major effect on Beam's writing also had much to do with his quitting the Pennsy Railroad and becoming a full-time writer.

67. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joyeuse>

68. Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, pp. 128, 171, 194 Two other names on Piper's planet are the town of Litchfield and the volcanic island of Barathrum. Litchfield appears to be Beam's spelling of "Lichfield", which comes from "The Lineage of Lichfield: An Essay in Eugenics", by Cabell. The book is "A fantastic genealogy of the Biography", tracing Manuel's descendants, both in France and America, through many generations. (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biography_of_the_Life_of_Manuel)

The name "Barathrum", referring to the bleak, volcanic island off the east coast of Poictesme's mainland, is visited by Jurgen on his adventures in the Infernal regions. Jurgen is told that "Hell was divided into principalities that had for governors Lucifer and Beelzebub and Belial and Ascheroth and Phlegeton: but that over all these was Grandfather Satan, who lived in the Black House at Barathrum." So Jurgen travels to Barathrum, and speaks with Satan there. (Cabell, *Jurgen*, pp. 253, 255-259)

For those who are interested, the name Barathrum comes from the Greek *barathron*, defined as "A pit, especially one at Athens into which criminals were thrown. The abyss, hell." (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/barathrum>)

Later Latinized to *barathrum*, this was another interesting name selection by Beam, who described his island east of the mainland thus. "Barathrum was a grim land, naked black and gray. Spines and crags of bare rock jutted up, lava flows like black glaciers twisting among them. It was split by faults and fissures, pimpled with ash-cones. Except for the seabirds that nested among the cliffs and the few thin patches of green where seeds windblown from

the mainland took root, it was as lifeless as when some ancient convulsion had thrust it up from the sea. Barathrum was a dead Inferno, untenanted even by the damned; by comparison, the Badlands seemed lushly fertile.” (Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, p. 88)

But Conn and his associates discover that Barathrum is in fact tenanted, as Piper had the island appropriately infested with criminals, who are living in a huge pit. The Blackie Perales gang inhabit an abandoned spaceport, built in the deep crater of an extinct volcano. And this ‘hell’ burns, too. For even though the volcano is extinct, a total of eight nuclear weapons are detonated in the subsequent battle between Litchfield Exploration & Salvage and the Perales Gang, over possession of the spaceport. The criminals are burned alive and killed in this ‘inferno’ (along with some of the good guys), as the gang is slowly wiped out. (ibid., pp. 89-114, 116)

‘Blackie’ Perales certainly seems like an appropriate name for an outlaw hiding from the law. But that Piper placed him in Barathrum may owe a debt to Cabell’s Black House at Barathrum. It is also interesting that Conn meets his new love, Sylvie Jacquemont (whom he later marries), at Barathrum. Because when Jurgen travels to Barathrum, he meets a new love; the vampire Florimel, whom he soon marries. (Cabell, *Jurgen*, pp. 271-273)

69. Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, pp. 3, 10, 23; and Piper, *Federation*, pp. 183, 196

70. Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, p. 206; and
H. Beam Piper, *Four-Day Planet/Lone Star Planet* (New York, NY: Ace Books, 1961), p. 197

71. Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, pp. 102, 117

72. H. Beam Piper, *Little Fuzzy* (New York, NY: Ace Books, 1962), p. 143; and
H. Beam Piper, *Fuzzy Sapiens* (New York, NY: Ace Books, 1964), p. 94

73. Thus, Piper’s silence on the Jacquemonts’ origin was probably deliberate, and seems to have involved some misdirection. It makes more sense for Yves and Sylvie to come from Baldur, but Beam appears to have ‘transferred’ this characteristic to Wade Lucas. Probably so that the Jacquemonts’ French nature wouldn’t be too obvious, but also because Piper was subtly ‘spreading his model around’. For as we’ve seen, he gave the ‘lost love’ elements from *Jurgen* to Conn, Lynne and Sylvie, Rodney and Mrs. Maxwell, and Kurt and Mrs. Fawzi, as well as Wade Lucas and Flora Maxwell.

74. Carr, *Piper Biography*, p. 212

75. H. Beam Piper, *Uller Uprising* (New York, NY: Ace Books, 1952), p. 150

76. Carr, *Piper Biography*, p. 213

77. Piper, *Federation*, p. 175

78. H. Beam Piper, *Empire* (New York, NY: Ace Books, 1981), pp. 21-22; and *Uller Uprising*, p. 64

79. Piper, *Four-Day/Lone Star*, p. 83

80. H. Beam Piper, *Lord Kalvan of Otherwhen* (New York, NY: Ace Books, 1965), p. 3 As further elaborated by Carlos von Schlichten, “You either went on to the inevitable catastrophe, or you realized, in time, that nuclear armament and nationalism cannot exist together on the same planet”. (Piper, *Uller Uprising*, pp. 186-187)

On Terra, the Fourth World War causes “the end of civilization in the Northern Hemisphere”, so one would assume that a ‘Fifth World War’ would do the same to the Southern Hemisphere. That, of course, would mean the end of civilization on Terra entirely! So the post-WWIV Federation presumably decides that, for Terran civilization to survive, it must abolish nation-states and bring all nuclear weapons under unified control.

81. Piper, *Fuzzy Sapiens*, pp. 96-97

13. A Few More Loves, Lost and Sometimes Regained

82. Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, pp. 4, 129, 197

83. Ibid., p. 183

84. Cabell, *Jurgen*, pp. 159-191

85. Ibid., pp. 196-249

86. Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, pp. 182, 183, 192

87. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Helen_O%27Loy A final twist is that Phil is in love with Helen, so that when she 'dies', he loses his love as well.

88. Ibid.

89. Cabell, *Jurgen*, pp. 218, 219, 225, 226, 228 It is also interesting that the spaceship *Helen O'Loy* is later used to bring "scanning and mining equipment" from Koshchei to Force Command, to help in the search for the Great Computer. (Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, pp. 191, 192) Thus, Piper has his characters use a spaceship named for a robot to look for another robot—which may be secretly contained within a buried spaceship! (See my paper "*The Cosmic Computer: Piper's Foundation?*", sections **36b** and **36c**.) At the same time, it's a ship named for a legendary queen (Helen of Troy) looking for a computer named for a legendary wizard (Merlin)!

90. Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, pp. 204, 226, 227, 239, 241, 242

91. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Awful_Truth

92. Ibid.

14. Conclusion

93. Piper, *Federation*, p. 175; and *Cosmic Computer*, p. 4

94. Carr, *Piper Biography*, p. 79

95. www.cadaeic.net/cabell.htm

96. John F. Carr, Introduction to *Paratime* (New York, NY: Ace Books, 1981), p. 11

97. Piper, *Cosmic Computer*, p. 225

98. Carr, Introduction to "When in the Course", *Federation*, p. 200