

THE LADY ELAINE: MORE LOST LOVE



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1. The Lost Love Theme Continued in *Space Viking*

a) *Parallel Romantic Interludes*

In my previous paper, ¹ I showed how H. Beam Piper wove the theme of lost love, with many strands, into the fabric of *The Cosmic Computer*. He finished writing the novel near the end of February, 1961. Only eight months later, he continued the theme of lost love in his next novel, *Space Viking*. This was written from mid-October 1961 to May 8, 1962. ² In other words, a year before his wife Betty finally filed for divorce, and when Beam was still hoping to reconcile with her.

In my paper, it was shown that High Garden Terrace on Poictesme, as the combination of a terrace and garden, was derived from the terrace atop the castle of Bellegarde, plus the Garden Between Dawn and Sunrise, in *Jurgen*. The castle terrace is where Jurgen romanced Countess Dorothy on a moonlit night, and planned to leave and become a nobleman, in order to be worthy of her hand. But they were interrupted by Heitman Michael, an actual nobleman, and this is when Jurgen began to lose Dorothy.

In *Space Viking*, Piper not only included a similar scene, he began the novel with it. Beam's main character is an actual nobleman, who romances his love, a noblewoman like Countess Dorothy, in the terrace-garden of a nobleman's residence. The main character subsequently loses his love, just as Jurgen loses Dorothy; but then he regains her for a time (as does Jurgen), until he finds a new love.

Space Viking opens on an upper terrace of Karvall House, the seat of Baron Sesar Karvall. His daughter, the Lady-Demoiselle Elaine Karvall, is in a romantic interlude with her fiancé, Lucas Trask, Baron of Traskon. Like Dorothy and Jurgen, the happy couple look out over a parapet on the lands below. In this case, it is the city of Wardshaven, and instead of Cabell's "world of unforgotten moonlight" (which Piper actually placed later in the story), it is late afternoon. But behind them is a garden, where "broad-leaved shrubbery gossiped softly with the wind", and an arbored walk leads to an open circle with a fountain, in which "white marble girls and boys [were] bathing in the jade-green basin." ³

Dorothy and Jurgen were attending a ball in Bellegarde, the castle of her older brother, Count Emmerick. Thus, the interludes of both authors occur at the noblewoman's home, during a major social event. Jurgen and Dorothy are unofficially engaged to be married, and Jurgen is soon to depart on a quest "to become a duke or an emperor or something of that sort", so he can have suitable rank to marry his sweetheart. ⁴ In this regard, it is interesting that while speaking together on the terrace, Lucas and Elaine both admit that they began looking upon each other as a future spouse "since *the night of the Duke's ball*", which was when Elaine had returned "home from school on Excalibur." ⁵

b) *Parallel Subsequent Woes*

And both men foresee trouble. At this point in Cabell's story, Jurgen has traveled back in time twenty years, from middle-age to his former youth. So he knows what the future holds for many of the people attending the ball. Despite the happy and relaxed atmosphere, he foresees many woes to come. One man he observes is a notorious outlaw in disguise, who will be exposed on the morrow, and it is hinted he will come to a bad end; another is a young man named Reinault, who while laughing throws his head back, and Jurgen knows that in a few months, his exposed throat will be slit while three Burgundians hold him; then there is "little Ettarre, who was...permitted to stay up later than usual, in honor of the masque; and Jurgen knew...that the child...was to become the woman for possession of whom Guiron des Rocques and the surly-looking small boy yonder, Maigis d'Aigremont, would contend with each other until the country hereabouts had been devastated, and the castle wherein Jurgen now was had been besieged, and this part of it burned. And wildly droll and sad it was to Jurgen to remember all that was going to happen to these persons, and to all the other persons who were frolicking in the shadow of their doom and laughing at this trivial masque." For they are unaware of "the ruinous years which lay ahead". ⁶

Similarly, the happiness of the reception and wedding on Gram is followed by disaster. Lucas Trask unintentionally portends these future woes, by prematurely calling his fiancé "Lady Elaine Trask of Traskon". To which Elaine replies, "Oh, no! It's bad luck to be called by your married name before the wedding." And this bad luck quickly comes to pass. Lucas marries his sweetheart the next day, but while they are leaving the venue she is killed, and Lucas himself is seriously wounded; as is Elaine's father, who later dies of his wounds. After Lucas heals, he trades his barony for a hypership (the *Nemesis*) to pursue the murderer of Elaine; and in the process, he and his crew of Space Vikings raid various planets,

plundering and killing as they go.⁷

The bad luck eventually engulfs the rest of Gram. In the months following Trask's departure, Duke Angus of Wardshaven unites the planet under himself as King. But this peaceful period doesn't last, because there is a strain of insanity in Angus' lineage, which is apparently a major factor in the king slowly developing into a tyrant. In turn, this causes the formerly-supportive nobles, not to mention the ordinary people, to turn against him. Over the years, Angus eventually becomes so bad that the situation is "more than anybody can stand! There isn't one of the old great nobility [King Angus] hasn't alienated, or one of the minor barons, the landholders and industrialists, the people who were always the backbone of Gram. And it goes from them down to the commonfolk. Assessments on the lords, taxes on the people, inflation to meet the taxes, high prices, debased coinage. Everybody's being beggared except this rabble of new lords he has around him, and that slut of a wife and her greedy kinfolk..."⁸

There's even a young lady involved. Ettarre's parallel is the Lady-Demoiselle Evita, daughter of Baron Valdiva. She is only seventeen years old when Lucas leaves Gram, so he has never heard of her. But he is shocked to learn that King Angus divorced his wife, the gracious Queen Flavia, on the pretext that "she was incapable of giving him an heir to the throne", and then immediately married the much younger Evita. It doesn't help that Evita is the aforementioned slut, whose shameless reputation in her father's lands soon grew beyond them; nor that most of Baron Valdiva's people "were out-and-out bandits and cattle rustlers, and he was as close to being one himself as he could get." Trask reacts disgustedly, "Nice family he's married into. A credit to the dignity of the throne."

Like the war over Ettarre, a war soon ensues over Evita; or at least, she is close to the last straw. Because ex-Queen Flavia's brother is Duke Joris of Bigglersport, one of the great nobles of Gram, who is "less than delighted" at his ex-brother-in-law's treatment of his sister. His response to King Angus' latest outrage is to begin hiring mercenaries and buying combat contragravity, in preparation for attacking his ever-more-unhinged and tyrannical sovereign.⁹

Finally, Gram erupts in a civil war, and is subsequently invaded by a fleet from the planet Haulteclere, which is backing the exiled Duke Omfray of Glaspyth as the rightful king. Gram undoubtedly suffers considerable destruction during this war, which Lucas predicts will "go on for another half a century".¹⁰ Karvall House and the surrounding Barony may be among the casualties of the violence, paralleling the destruction of the region around Bellegarde, and the siege and partial burning of Count Emmerick's castle. Although in fact, with the deaths of Lady Elaine and Baron Karvall early in the novel, the House of Karvall is effectively ended already. Elaine was apparently an only child; because Sesar's widow, Lady Lavina Karvall, "had turned the barony and the business over to her brother, Burt Sandrasan, and [had] gone to live on Excalibur", where she'll spend her remaining years.¹¹

Thus, just as at the ball in Bellegarde, the guests at the pre-wedding reception at Karvall House were "frolicking in the shadow of their doom", having no idea of "the ruinous years which lay ahead".

2. Parallel Rivals for the Lost Love's Hand

But that's getting ahead of the story. Because just as Jurgen's rival for Countess Dorothy is Heitman Michael, Lucas has a 'rival' for the hand of Elaine, in the person of Baron Andray Dunnan, nephew of Duke Angus. Unlike the courtly Michael, Andray is insane, due to "The bad blood of Blackcliffe" that he shares with his uncle. However, both protagonists' rivals are parallel nuisances to the female. Dorothy says that "Heitman Michael is always plaguing me", because he greatly desires her hand, and her brother Count Emmerick "is at me day and night to marry the man". All this annoys Dorothy, who loves Jurgen. Besides, Michael is an "old fellow", because he "was nearing thirty, and this to Dorothy [17 years old at the time] and Jurgen [18] was an age that bordered upon senility."¹²

Similarly, Andray Dunnan won't leave Elaine alone, even though she loves Trask rather than him. At the pre-wedding reception, Elaine's father mentions that Andray is "back in town", which upsets Elaine; and Lucas replies, "Has Dunnan been bothering Elaine again?" In fact, the man is 'a great plague' (and indeed becomes a *huge* plague later in the novel), because he is "obsessively in love with Elaine Karvall, a passion which seemed to nourish itself on its own hopelessness...in his own private dream world, a world of fantasy that had now become Andray Dunnan's reality, an Elaine Karvall whom his imagination had created existed only to love him." Elaine tries to convince Andray that she does not love him, first by sending a message through her father "that she wants nothing whatever to do with" him. Then, when Dunnan confronts her directly at the pre-wedding reception, she reiterates her love for Lucas

and intention to marry him, telling Andray to “go and never let me see you again.”¹³

Both sets of rivals end up in duels, and death is the result. At the ball in Bellegarde, Heitman Michael joins Jurgen and Dorothy on the terrace, to claim Dorothy for a dance. Jurgen remembers that, twenty years earlier, he had stood aside and let Dorothy dance with him, and that “this dance had been the beginning of intimacy between Heitman Michael and Dorothy”, leading to their marriage several months later. Determined not to lose Dorothy a second time, Jurgen does not stand aside. Instead, he decides to challenge Heitman Michael to mortal combat. Michael replies that “You are insane” for suggesting a duel to the death over a mere dance. In honor, Michael cannot refuse, and moreover as an experienced fighter, who has killed several “stout warriors” in battle, he is confident in his chances. Michael soon defeats Jurgen who, although a fair swordsman, is not as experienced as the older man. This result infuriates Jurgen, who is not only about to lose Dorothy again, but now his life as well! However, Heitman Michael declines to run the helpless Jurgen through, so as not to upset Jurgen’s parents (not to mention Dorothy); but as Michael walks away with her, Jurgen treacherously attacks him from behind, repeatedly stabbing him in the back and killing him.¹⁴

Similarly, Andray’s unwelcome attentions to Elaine will lead to a duel with Trask. Lucas muses that, if Dunnan doesn’t leave her alone after they are married, he will have to challenge him. And when Andray confronts Elaine at the pre-wedding reception, Trask “wondered briefly how soon he would have to look at him from twenty-five meters over the sights of a pistol.” But in this ‘duel’, Andray is the treacherous one. Having lost Elaine to Lucas (who interestingly does not dance with Elaine, since at the wedding feast which follows the ceremony, “everybody but the bride and groom would celebrate”), Dunnan attempts to kill them both with a sub-machine gun as they leave the venue. Elaine is hit six times and immediately killed, while Lucas is hit twice (once in the chest, an inch from his heart) and seriously wounded.¹⁵

So Trask effectively ‘loses’ Elaine to Andray, even as Jurgen loses Dorothy to Michael. Indeed, late in the novel, Andray insanely believes that Elaine is still alive, and will marry him! When Lucas Trask finally catches up to Dunnan on the planet Marduk, Dunnan says “Oh, yes; the poor fool who thought he was going to marry Elaine Karvall. Well, you won’t, Lord Trask of Traskon. She loves me, not you. She’s waiting for me now, on Gram.”¹⁶

3. The Lost Love Regained for a Time

As we’ve seen, in Cabell the main character’s lost love is regained; Jurgen is reunited with Dorothy. In my previous paper, it was shown that many lost loves are regained in *The Cosmic Computer*. Just not the main character’s. Jurgen reclaims the blonde Countess Dorothy, but Conn Maxwell does not regain the blonde Lynne Fawzi. So it appears that Piper corrected this deficiency in *Space Viking*, where he had his main character, Lucas Trask, regain his actual lost love, who is apparently a blonde.

To recap, Jurgen regains Dorothy, first by traveling back in time, then by killing Michael; and not too long after Elaine’s death, Lucas Trask regains his lost love. Since Elaine has been killed, this involves her discarnate spirit ‘haunting’ him on several occasions. The first time is on Tanith, the first planet Trask visits after leaving Gram. He lands at Rivington, the old planetary capital during Federation times, which is now in ruins. There, he joins two other Space Viking captains, Boake Valkanhayn and Garvan Spasso, in their headquarters at the top of a big building in the center of the old spaceport.¹⁷

On their aborted honeymoon, Lucas was going to take Elaine on a trip “to some of the other Sword-Worlds—Excalibur, of course, and Morglay and Flamberge...they’d have so much fun. And she would see clear blue skies again, and stars at night. The cloudveil hid the stars from Gram, and Elaine had missed them, since coming home from Excalibur.” It is therefore appropriate that Elaine’s first spirit-visit to her beloved Lucas occurs at night. “There were stars in the sky [of Tanith], and, for good measure, a sliver of moon on the eastern horizon. It was only a small moon, but it was close. He walked to the edge of the observation deck, and Elaine was walking with him. The noise from inside, where the *Nemesis* crew were feasting with those of the *Lamia* and *Space-Scourge* grew fainter. To the south, a star moved; one of the pinnacles they had left on off-planet watch. There was firelight far below, and he could hear singing. Suddenly he realized it was the poor devils of locals whom Valkanhayn and Spasso had enslaved. Elaine went away quickly.”¹⁸

Lucas and spirit-Elaine standing at the edge of an observation deck, looking out at the sky and the city of Rivington below, is very reminiscent of the scene at the beginning of *Space Viking*, where they are standing at the edge of a terrace, looking out at the sky and the city of Wardshaven below. There’s a

similar social event occurring behind them (a multi-crew feast, paralleling the pre-wedding reception), and even parallel spaceships in parallel directions. The distant pinnacle orbiting Tanith in the southern sky echoes the *Enterprise*, which on Gram was located “ten miles to the southwest...back at the Gorram shipyards after her final trial cruise.”¹⁹ The fact that the *Enterprise* was on the ground is in turn paralleled by the *Nemesis*, *Lamia* and *Space-Scourge*, all of which are landed at the ruined spaceport of Rivington, not far from the building with the observation deck. And even the jumbled remains of Rivington may be a foreshadowing of the ruin soon coming to Wardshaven on Gram, which will likely be devastated in the future civil and dynastic war.

The only major difference between the two scenes is the time; day on Gram, night on Tanith. But the latter is explained by the scene in *Jurgen*. Lucas and Elaine looking out at the stars and moon of Tanith parallels Jurgen and Dorothy on the terrace of Bellegarde, in their “world of unforgotten moonlight”. And in all three scenes, the interlude is interrupted. Dorothy and Jurgen’s reverie at Bellegarde is interrupted by Heitman Michael, who comes to claim Dorothy for a dance; on Gram, Elaine and Lucas are interrupted by Baron Sesar Karvall, who similarly comes to bring them back to their guests; and on Tanith, spirit-Elaine goes away just before Lucas is joined by Baron Rathmore, who—if Elaine hadn’t fled at the sight of the enslaved locals—would have interrupted his interlude with his discarnate wife. It isn’t stated, but afterward Lucas and Rathmore probably go back inside and rejoin the feasting.

The second time Elaine appears is after Lucas begins raiding other worlds. The first planet he raids is Khepera, where Trask and Sir Paytrik Morland encounter a local, whose sweetheart has been killed in the fighting. “She was dead, half her head had been blown off, but he was clasping her tightly, her blood staining his shirt, and sobbing heartbrokenly.” Morland wants to help the man, but instead, Lucas shoots him dead. ““Great Satan, Lucas! Why did you do that?” “I wish Dunnan had done that for me...None of this would be happening if he had. How many more happinesses do you think we’ve smashed here today? And we don’t even have Dunnan’s excuse of madness.” ” Trask can certainly relate to the man, whose loss is just like his own. But that Trask is now doing to others what was once done to him appalls the spirit of his dead wife. “Elaine came to him, while he was resting. She looked at him in horror, and he tried to hide his face from her, and then realized that he was trying to hide it from himself.” This parallels Countess Dorothy, who is horrified at Jurgen’s murder of Michael.²⁰

Elaine stays away for a long time after this. But she returns to Lucas while he is on Marduk, one of the really civilized worlds. After saving Prince Simon Bentrík in the Battle of Audhumla, the now-Prince Trask becomes a good friend of the Mardukan royal family. “The hunting-lodge where Crown Prince Edvard was simple Baron Cragdale lay at the head of a sharply-sloping mountain valley down which a river tumbled. Mountains rose on either side in high scarps, some topped with perpetual snow, glaciers curling down from them. The lower ranges were forested, as was the valley between, and there was a red-mauve alpenglow on the great peak that rose from the head of the valley. For the first time in over a year, Elaine was with him, silently clinging to him to see the beauty of it through his eyes. He had thought that she had gone from him forever.”²¹

In a way, this can also be seen as part of their aborted honeymoon, when Elaine and Lucas would have visited other worlds, having fun and seeing the sights, and just being together.

4. A New Love Appears

But from both Cabell and Piper, we know that the lost love is replaced by a new one. Jurgen loses Dorothy and marries Adelais (Dame Lisa), and Conn loses Lynne Fawzi and marries Sylvie Jacquemont. Moreover, after regaining Dorothy for an evening, Jurgen loses her again. So it is not too surprising that, just after Elaine returns to Lucas on Marduk, he meets Lady Valerie Alvarath, who is the governess of the Crown Prince’s young daughter, little eight-year-old Princess Myrna. Prince Trask notices that Lady Valerie “was beautiful—black hair, and almost startlingly blue eyes, a combination unusual among the Sword-Worlds—and she was intelligent, or at least cleverly articulate.”

It is here that Lucas begins gaining his new love. For on the very next day, “He succeeded...in convincing everybody that he wanted to be alone for a while, and was sitting alone in a garden, watching the rainbows in the mist of a big waterfall across the valley. Elaine would have liked that, but she wasn’t with him, now.” Why doesn’t spirit-Elaine come to him again, to share this sight on a sunny morning? Maybe because she knows that Trask will soon be joined by Princess Myrna (plus her dog Mopsy), who is then followed by none other than the beautiful Lady Valerie, who is wearing a pretty dress. After Myrna

has to leave with her nurse for a math lesson, Lucas invites Valerie to enjoy the garden with him. Lady Valerie replies, "But gladly, Prince Trask...Have you seen the grottoes? They're down this way."

So instead of sharing the view with Elaine, he shares it with Valerie. That this will lead to a long-term relationship is presaged a mere 15 lines later, on the very same page. In a private meeting with the Mardukan Crown Prince, Edvard suggests that "A formal treaty between Tanith and Marduk would be greatly to the advantage of both." To which Prince Trask replies, "I'd be inclined to think so, Prince Edvard. But *aren't you proposing marriage on rather short acquaintance?* It's only been fifty hours since the *Nemesis* orbited in here." 'Short acquaintance' perfectly describes Trask's relationship with Lady Valerie, which only began the previous evening!²²

This connection is reinforced by Lady Valerie herself, who is closely involved with another treaty. Her charge, Princess Myrna, is "Queen, in our own right, of our Royal Bedroom, our Royal Playroom, and our Royal Bathroom. And Mopsy is our faithful subject." Hearing of the proposed treaty between Tanith and Marduk, 'Queen' Myrna insists on having her own treaty with Prince Trask. This play-treaty is approved by Lady Valerie, provided that it is "kept very secret". Having "A real secret treaty; just like the wicked rulers of the old dictatorship!" delights Myrna who, having declined to be Prince Trask's "girl" on Marduk (as Trask says all Space Vikings are supposed to have), suggests that Lady Valerie should fill that role.²³

After Trask leaves Marduk, he and Valerie are separated for a year and a half. One might almost say Trask 'loses' his new love as he did his old one. But his feelings for Lady Valerie continue to grow, until he is joined on Tanith by Princess Bentrík, Simon's wife; and their son, Count Stephen. They have fled Marduk, because the fascist agitator Zaspár Makann has taken over the planet. Trask inquires about the health of Princess Myrna and Lady Valerie, and upon mentioning the latter's name, he thinks, "She seemed so clearly real and present to him, blue eyes and space-black hair, more real than Elaine had been to him for years." The spirit of Elaine is being replaced in his mind by the 'spirit' (thought-feeling) of Valerie. Later, Myrna and Valerie join them on Tanith, and Trask's heart skips a beat at hearing Valerie's voice. During the long voyage back to Marduk in the *Nemesis*, accompanied by an allied fleet which plans to liberate the planet from Makann—who as it turns out is backed by Andray Dunnán—Prince Trask spends a lot of time with Lady Valerie, and their relationship apparently grows in proportion.²⁴

The last time Elaine appears to Lucas is at the end of *Space Viking*. Prince Trask has decided to cut all ties with the Sword-Worlds, which are half-deciviled already, due to their endless dynastic wars; promote the recivilizing of the galaxy through a new interstellar organization, the League of Civilized Worlds; and assume the title King of Tanith. "Well, if he was going to be a king, shouldn't he have a queen? Kings usually did...There was Valerie Alvarath. They'd enjoyed each other's society on the *Nemesis*. He wondered if she would want to make it permanent, even on a throne...Elaine was with him. He felt her beside him, almost tangibly. Her voice was whispering to him; *She loves you, Lucas. She'll say yes. Be good to her, and she'll make you happy.* Then she was gone, and he knew that she would never return. Goodbye, Elaine."²⁵

5. An Undying Love, and Other Lost Loves in *Space Viking*

Well, there's an interesting twist! The main character's lost love actually knows about, approves of, and encourages him to propose to his new love! Elaine's literally undying love for Lucas is so strong and unselfish that she just wants him to be happy. Since she is in a discarnate state, however, it can't be with her; so it will have to be with an incarnate woman who loves him. If that isn't unconditional love, I don't know what is. And this ending by Piper is a huge departure from Cabell, not to mention *The Cosmic Computer*. For not only did Countess Dorothy not remain faithful to Jurgen after he left on his quest, marrying Heitman Michael just a few months later; she looks down upon her old flame, now a humble, middle-aged pawnbroker. To his face, Dorothy calls Jurgen an "abominable userer" and an "Old monster"; although it is interesting that the now-nearing-middle-age countess takes young lovers, as if in memory of her own youthful love affair with the teenaged Jurgen.²⁶

By way of contrast, in Beam's earlier novel *The Cosmic Computer*, Conn Maxwell's lost love, Lynne Fawzi has no way of knowing about, let alone approving of, his new love, Sylvie Jacquemont. For the simple reason that Lynne no longer exists as a character!

Just like the many other 'lost loves' in *The Cosmic Computer*, there are other lost loves in *Space Viking*. As we've seen, Lady Lavina Karvall loses both her husband and her daughter, Queen Flavia loses her husband, and even her replacement, Queen Evita, loses King Angus, who is quite likely killed

during the invasion of Gram by Haulteclere's forces. And during the liberation of Marduk, many soldiers and spacemen of Tanith are killed, leaving loved ones behind. "There was an awful lot of Em being converted to Ee off Marduk, today. Including Manfred Ravallo [captain of the *Black Star*]; that grieved him. He had a girl in Rivington...Niffenheim, there were eight hundred good men aboard the *Black Star*, and most of them had girls who'd wait in vain for them on Tanith."²⁷

6. Parallel French Names, and the Derivation of Other Names

The parallels between *Jurgen* and *Space Viking* include personal names. As a French countess, the proper form of Dorothy's name should be Dorothee. But we recall that Countess Dorothy is called "la Désirée", meaning a greatly desired French girl of noble birth. Piper's choice of "Elaine" for his parallel character is interesting, because that is the French form of Helen; and her title of "Demoiselle" seems to be the French form of damsel, or maiden; "originally one of gentle or noble birth".²⁸ Furthermore, 'la Desiree' and 'Lady-Demoiselle' seem very similar.

The connection between the two ladies is even stronger, because in Jurgen's year of amorous adventures, the last beautiful woman he falls in love with is Helen of Troy. But to Jurgen, Helen is simply Dorothy in another form. "Thus it was that Jurgen quitted the Countess Dorothy, whom, as you have heard, this pawnbroker had loved in his first youth under the name Heart's Desire; and whom in the youth that was loaned him by Mother Sereda he had loved as Queen Helen, the delight of gods and men."²⁹ So Jurgen 'regains' Dorothy more than once, just as Trask is visited by spirit-Elaine multiple times.

Next, as a Poictesmean, Heitman Michael is a French nobleman, whose name should be spelled in its French form, "Michel". But as Michael is Jurgen's rival for Dorothy, this can explain why Piper's parallel rival is named "Andray", the future form of the French "André". Heitman ("high man"?) Michael may also be related to the later appearance in *Space Viking* of King "Mikhyll" of Marduk, obviously the future form of Michael.³⁰ And Beam did something comparable, not to mention rather striking, in his Galactic Empire story "A Slave is a Slave". There, he actually began with three words; the name of his main character, "Jurgen, Prince Trevannion". Piper therefore appears to have fulfilled the ambitions of Cabell's character, by having his own Jurgen "become a duke or an emperor or something of that sort." Indeed, Prince Jurgen Trevannion is such a high-ranking nobleman in the Galactic Empire, that he reports directly to the Prime Minister and the Emperor himself.³¹

Getting back to personal names, one of the Imperial officers in Prince Jurgen's company is called Colonel Pyairr Ravney, whose first name is the future version of 'Pierre'; while another is Captain Patrique Morvill. Patrique seems to be the French form of Patrick, while Morvill could be an abbreviation of the more French-looking 'Morville'. Morvill may also owe a debt to Morven, a region in Cabell's land of Poictesme. In that case, his surname would mean 'Morven Village'. The possibility would then arise that Pyairr's home planet was Poictesme—if only Beam hadn't made it Lugaluru.³²

As for Trask's two loves, Elaine Karvall and Valerie Alvarath should both be 'French' girls, paralleling Countess Dorothy and Dame Lisa. We've already seen that Elaine is the French form of Helen, and guess what—Valerie is the French form of Valeria. The name Elaine means "bright, shining light", which certainly seems appropriate for the spirit of a loving wife who 'haunts' her husband after death. And Valerie means "strength, health", which is also fitting given that Lady Valerie later marries Trask, bears his children, and presumably remains with him for the rest of his life.

Now, what about their last names? As far as I can tell, Karvall seems to be a Scandinavian surname, which makes sense since Elaine's family lives in the Sword-Worlds, whence the Space Vikings hail. A Nordic name would also suggest that Elaine Karvall is a blonde, supported by her namesake Helen (of Troy), as well as her model Countess Dorothy; and that is in fact the way I always pictured her. However, from all the possible Scandinavian surnames Beam could have chosen, it is interesting that her last name is very similar to 'Cabell'. Karvall, Cabell. One then wonders if Piper used the last name of Trask's lost love as a hidden tribute to the lost love Cabell put in *Jurgen*.

As for Alvarath, the name seems very similar to Valerie itself. If we move the letters around, it becomes 'Valarath', possibly derived from the French Valerie. On the other hand, it could be Beam's 'future' version of the Hispanic surname Alvarado, which (if I remember my middle school Spanish correctly) should be pronounced 'Alvaratho', with a hard th sound as in 'the'. If Alvarath comes from Alvarado, it would reflect how Old Federation planets like Marduk were mainly colonized from the Southern Hemisphere of Terra, in this case South America. Like some of Piper's other future names,

Alvarado has simply become corrupted in spelling and/or pronunciation over the centuries since. This is also seen in Omfray of Glaspyth, whose name is Beam's future form of 'Humphrey'. An Old Terran Hispanic derivation can also explain Valerie's "space-black" hair, which of course is common in South America.

These lines of reasoning suggest that "Elaine Karvall" is actually a French-Scandinavian girl, at least in name; while "Valerie Alvarath" is a French-Hispanic one. Probably due to the fact that in Piper's Future History, the intermarriage of different ethnicities after the Fourth World War causes a blending of names; resulting in characters like Julio Kubanoff (Hispanic-Russian) in *Four-Day Planet*, Themistocles M'zangwe (Greco-African) in *Uller Uprising*, and Mohammed Ali O'Brien (Arabic-Irish) in *Little Fuzzy*. The "startling blue eyes" of Lady Valerie Alvarath might then come from the French side of her heritage, rather than her Hispanic side.³³

In any case, Elaine and Valerie are both 'French' girls; one a lost, blonde love who is regained for a time (in spirit form); and the other a new, dark-haired love who the older hero settles down with. Precisely in the vein of *Jurgen*—and *The Cosmic Computer*.

7. Parallel Rulers Named Manuel?

a) From Count Manuel to Baron Maniwel

There's another noteworthy name in *Space Viking*. After Lucas Trask participates in his first Viking raid on the planet Khepera, he recalls a time in the past when "he'd led the fighting-men of Traskon during the boundary dispute with Baron Maniwel". At first glance, this is just a minor detail in the story. Trask thinks about it because it was his only prior experience in personal combat, although "there were always bandits and cattle-rustlers. He'd thought it would be like that." But the raid on Khepera is far beyond anything Trask was expecting, and Otto Harkaman uses an ancient metaphor. "Well, you saw the elephant, Lucas. You don't seem to have liked it...The expression means, experiencing something for the first time which makes a great impression. Elephants must have been something to see."³⁴

In light of the present thesis, however, this seemingly-unimportant reference to Baron Maniwel may contain more meaning than we realize. 'Maniwel' is obviously Beam's future version of Manuel, and the character of Dom Manuel looms large in Cabell's novels of Poictesme, twenty-five of which are lumped together into an overarching epic called the *Biography of the Life of Manuel*.³⁵

When Jurgen finds himself in the Garden between Dawn and Sunrise, it is the first time that he meets his lost love, the Countess Dorothy. He begins speaking with her, but Dorothy does not recognize him, since Jurgen is still in his middle-aged body. Realizing that he is now twenty years in the past, Jurgen says "Nay, more, it is the August of a year I had not looked ever to see again; and I wonder if presently Dom Manuel will be reigning over us again, that man of iron whom I saw die so horribly."³⁶

This implies that in the not-too-distant future, Dom Manuel will become the ruler of Poictesme, which in turn means he succeeds Count Emmerick, Dorothy's older brother. This must occur at some point after the ball at Bellegarde, where (the now-young) Jurgen foreknows the fates of many attendees, which will occur in the "the ruinous years which lay ahead". While not stated explicitly, Jurgen must also be aware that Count Emmerick is fated to lose his throne, and possibly his life as well.

This deduction is supported by Cabell's novel *The Cream of the Jest*, which begins with the coming nuptials of Ettare, and so takes place a few years after the ball at Bellegarde. The time is "when the fourth Count Emmerick reigned in Poictesme, having not yet blundered into the disfavor of his papal cousin, Adrian VII".³⁷ This cousin was at the ball in Bellegarde, being described by Jurgen as "Messire de Montours...and Jurgen knew that this young bishop was to become Pope of Rome, no less".³⁸

So it seems that the fall of Count Emmerick is partly due to a dispute with his cousin, Pope Adrian VII. In Piper, there is no organized religion, but the fall of King Angus is similarly due to a family relationship. It even includes a cousin. When Duke Angus unites Gram, it is partly through force, and his enemy Duke Omfray of Glaspyth escapes "off-planet. He was now eating the bitter bread of exile at the court of his wife's uncle, the King of Haulteclere." The dispossession of his nephew-in-law eventually results in King Konrad sending an expedition to place Duke Omfray on the throne of Gram. Omfray "has a fleet of eight ships...They are commanded by King Konrad's Space Viking cousin, the Prince of Xochitl." When this force arrives on Gram, the days of Angus as king are numbered; and the number isn't large.³⁹

b) King Maniwel I of Gram?

Dom Manuel rises to become the Count of Poictesme; and in Piper, Poictesme is a planet. So we now have to wonder if Baron Maniwel rises to become the ruler of a planet. Since he lives on Gram, he could replace the current ruler of Gram, just as Dom Manuel replaces the current ruler of Poictesme. We know that King Angus loses his throne, and possibly his life, by the end of *Space Viking*. But we don't know who takes his place. Prince Trask speculates on the matter. "Let Viktor of Xochitl have it. Or Garvan Spasso." Omfray of Glaspyth is another strong contender, and of course there are the major lords of Gram to consider; Duke Joris of Bigglersport (who could claim the throne on behalf of his sister, the former Queen Flavia), Count Lionel of Newhaven, and Lord Alan of Northport.⁴⁰

However, could Beam have intended for it to be Baron Maniwel? If so, then Maniwel's unlikely rise must occur during the first few decades of the fifty-year dynastic war. In Cabell, Dom Manuel is "a morally ambiguous protagonist who rises to conquer a realm by playing on others' expectations—his motto being *Mundus Vult Decipi*, meaning "the world wishes to be deceived."⁴¹ We would thus surmise that Baron Maniwel uses deception, playing on the fears and expectations of various nobles and factions, to advance his own fortunes. His morally-ambiguous rise is unexpectedly successful, and he eventually finds himself King of Gram. But his rule will end badly, since the Cabell model suggests that King Maniwel will "die horribly", just like Dom Manuel. Perhaps his earlier intrigues catch up with him. In any case, the deduced reign of King Maniwel would be just one part of this chaotic, half-century period of warfare on Gram.

But there is another aspect of Dom Manuel's reign over Poictesme to consider. His death is followed by "the creation of the legend of Manuel the Redeemer, in which Manuel is pictured as an infallible hero, an example to which all others should aspire". The rise of this myth is described in *The Silver Stallion*, and there "the story is told by Manuel's former knights, who remember how things really were and take different approaches to reconciling the mythology with the actuality of Manuel".⁴²

So if Gram is indeed ruled by a King Maniwel, perhaps he 'redeems' the planet in some way, giving rise to legends about him. Perhaps Maniwel, a "man of iron" like Dom Manuel, ends up being an imitation King Arthur, who reunifies Gram and defeats, or at least temporarily repulses, the off-world invaders from Xochitl and Haulteclere. Gram may then experience a period of relative calm and stability, in contrast to "the ruinous years" of the recent past. The people begin cleaning up the mess and rebuilding their lives, and a semblance of prosperity returns. Some years later, King Maniwel dies, either preceding, or concurrent with, a new eruption of civil and dynastic violence. The people of Gram would then remember his reign with nostalgia, and King Maniwel as an example of strength and positive rule to which all nobles should aspire. But the knights and retainers closest to Maniwel would "remember how things really were", and that their deceitful sovereign of questionable morals had been anything but a paragon of virtue.

c) The 'Redeemers' of Gram

It is very interesting that Piper did include a character who could 'redeem' Gram. And this is none other than Baron Trask, the very man Baron Maniwel had a boundary dispute with! After he becomes Lord of Tanith, and is promoted to Prince and Viceroy by King Angus, Trask's reputation back home begins growing. This continues in the following years, until by the time King Angus becomes a tyrant, the lords and people of Gram start looking for a deliverer; and Prince Trask is their choice. Baron Rathmore comes out from Gram to offer his sword to Trask, and says, "Lucas, you have enough ships and men here to take Gram...Proclaim yourself King of Tanith and then lay claim to the throne of Gram, and the whole planet would rise for you...Lucas, why don't you come back? You have no idea what a reputation you have on Gram, now. Everybody would rally to you." Prince Trask declines the offer, because he no longer has any interest in Gram, and is busy nurturing the growth of a new civilization on Tanith.⁴³

Despite his refusal, the request is repeated several more times, until with the arrival of Duke Omfray and the Haulteclerean fleet, the situation on Gram becomes dire. The need now is for nothing less than "a crusade for the deliverance of Gram." If he takes up the mantle, Lucas could become the savior of his home planet, as well as its king. But again he declines, because he correctly believes that "the Sword-Worlds are finished; they're half decivilized now."⁴⁴ So Lucas will not be the 'redeemer' of Gram.

If the Cabell parallel holds, however, someone else must pick up the banner. And that points to Baron Maniwel. The eventual outcome would be quite ironic. A minor boundary dispute between two minor noblemen on the minor Sword-World of Gram results in both men becoming rulers of entire planets!

King Lucas I of Tanith, meet King Maniwel I of Gram?

d) A Greater Redeemer

On the other hand, maybe Piper used Baron Maniwel as a subtle 'pointer' to Baron Trask, who is the real redeemer in the story. For Lucas does in fact 'redeem' many people and realms. The first one is Duke Angus and his duchy of Wardshaven. Angus was building two hyperships, in order to set up a raiding and trading base on Tanith, which would provide him with the resources needed to become king of Gram. But when Andray Dunnan and his accomplices steal the first ship, the *Enterprise*, Angus faces financial ruin. "Building the *Enterprise* took everything we had. The duchy's on the edge of bankruptcy now." But Lucas wants revenge for the murder of Elaine, so he trades his entire barony of Traskon for the second ship Angus was building, once it is "Finished, equipped, and ready for space". Traskon is so valuable that "The Wardshaven financial and industrial barons, whom he had known only distantly...came flocking around him, offering assistance and hailing him as the savior of the duchy. Duke Angus' credit, almost obliterated by the loss of the *Enterprise*, was firmly reestablished, and theirs with it."⁴⁵

So Lucas 'redeems' Duke Angus and Wardshaven, and this in turn enables Gram to be united. For as Trask himself says, "Angus is going to make himself King of Gram, and *I don't think anybody else could do that*. This planet needs a single sovereignty...Some of these duchies, like Glaspyth or Didreksburg, are literal snake-pits. All the major barons are at each other's throats, and they can't even keep their own knights and petty-barons in order. Why, there's a miserable little war down in Southmain Continent that's been going on for over two centuries." Without Trask's trade, Wardshaven would likely have collapsed, and Gram would have remained disunited and at war with itself. Though King Angus later becomes a tyrant, the planet does enjoy a period of peace and prosperity. So Trask did 'redeem' Gram after all.⁴⁶

The second planet he redeems is Tanith. Lucas takes his ship, now named the *Nemesis*, and establishes the base Duke Angus had wanted. This is more to further his search for Dunnan than to help Angus, but it ends up serving both purposes. Trask raids and trades with other worlds, generating wealth and contributing to the growth of interstellar commerce. In return, the now-King Angus appoints Lucas Prince and Viceroy of Tanith. But Dunnan knew about Angus' proposed base, so in case he attacks Tanith, Trask begins building up this currently-uncivilized planet. One of his first acts is to free the people of Tanith from bondage, imposed on them by the Space Vikings Boake Valkanhayn and Garvan Spasso. Over the years, he and his supporters get so much done that Tanith itself finally becomes a fully civilized world; one of the first recivilized worlds since the fall of the Terran Federation, seven centuries before.⁴⁷

The third and fourth are Beowulf and Amaterasu. At first, Trask raids both planets, but then he makes peace and begins trading with them. That's because Beowulf is rich in fissionables, essential for atomic-powered technology and weaponry; while Amaterasu is rich in gadolinium, necessary for hyperdrive engines. This triangular trade enables Beowulf, an interplanetary Commonwealth, to regain hyperdrive, the only technology it lacks to become fully civilized. Amaterasu is currently divided among many nations, and after Trask's raid seems to be in a 1950s-parallel Cold War. Lucas returns with two ships "and declared peace against the whole planet." Possessing no fissionables, the Amaterasians have no nuclear weapons, so they cannot fight back. Instead, they unite their world in a Planetary League, and begin trading with Tanith and Beowulf. This enables them to regain an atomic-powered economy, and then, after some years, to acquire hyperdrive and join the ranks of the fully-civilized worlds as well.⁴⁸

The fifth realm Trask redeems is Marduk and its monarchy. And like Dom Manuel, whose motto is "Mundus Vult Decipi", he uses deception to do it. After Zaspas Makann and his fascist People's Welfare Party take control of Marduk, some members of the royal family escape to Tanith. Thanks to Otto Harkaman, Lucas has become a student of history, and is aware of the extreme danger that fascism, always an expansionist ideology, poses to its neighbors. But he is pestered by two groups at his court; one wanting him to return to Gram and save it from Duke Omfray of Glaspyth, and the other demanding that he raid Xochitl, the base planet of Trask's Space Viking rival, Prince Viktor.

But Trask realizes that a 'Nazi' Marduk, with its population of two billion to use for military production and conscription, is a much greater threat to Tanith than Gram or Xochitl, both low-population worlds. So he decides to tell his divided court "a big lie. Such a big lie that nobody will dare to disbelieve it." The lie is that Andray Dunnan is on Marduk, and allied with Zaspas Makann; and since Dunnan hates Trask, "we'll have the Mardukan navy coming out of hyperspace on Tanith." Trask's lie is successful, and his now-united court organizes an allied fleet of ships from Tanith, Beowulf and Amaterasu, plus a few independent Space Vikings, to liberate the planet. As Trask defines the goal, "So we go to Marduk and smash him now, while he's still little enough to smash." There had been a few who had wanted to do that

about Hitler, and a great many, later, who had regretted that it hadn't been done." " On Gimli, they are joined by several Royal Mardukan Navy ships. Trask then leads this armada to Marduk, where they destroy the fascist regime, and thereby prevent a wider, interstellar-size parallel of World War II, which otherwise would have occurred. The constitutional monarchy of Marduk, an almost-powerless relic like Britain's, will soon be reinvigorated with the coronation of a strong new ruler, King Simon I.⁴⁹

The sixth is the known galaxy. At the end of the novel, Prince Trask, about to become King Lucas I, conceives the League of Civilized Worlds. He doesn't know it, but in the future the League will come to be dominated by Marduk, and later grow into the Galactic Empire; the first Universal State since the fall of the Terran Federation. The Interregnum will end, heralding a new period of interstellar peace.⁵⁰

In all, Trask 'redeems' Gram, Tanith, Beowulf, Amaterasu, Marduk, and by extension, the known galaxy! Paralleling Dom Manuel, his rise is morally ambiguous, since Lucas spends some years as a Space Viking, and "Space Vikings are professional robbers and murderers." Trask is in fact a mass-murderer, since he did not hesitate to deploy nuclear weapons on Amaterasu and Beowulf, killing, burning, maiming and blinding untold numbers of people.⁵¹ But these failings are offset by Trask's conversion into an interstellar businessman and civilized monarch. His overall accomplishments are undeniable, and indeed 'moral', because in the end, they bring the most benefits to the most people.

As a sharp businessman, staunch fighter, and wise ruler, King Lucas is surely someone that others would want to emulate. And when he dies, his life could pass into legend, like that of Dom Manuel. If so, we would expect to see Lucas Trask "pictured as an infallible hero, an example to which all others should aspire". Yet Dom Manuel only 'redeemed' one little county, of one small kingdom, on a single planet. Given the vast, interstellar scale of Trask's impact on Terro-Human history, covering many hundreds of worlds, a better title for *Space Viking* might be *The Legend of King Lucas, the Great Redeemer*.⁵²

e) Who Uses Deception

We recall that in Cabell, Dom Manuel is "a morally ambiguous protagonist who rises to conquer a realm by playing on others' expectations—his motto being *Mundus Vult Decipi*, meaning "the world wishes to be deceived." " Piper's redeemer, Prince Trask, likewise uses deception in several of his dealings. And the first world he deceives is Amaterasu.

When he goes there with the *Nemesis* and *Space-Scourge*, his intent is to raid the planet, but to do so in a more humane manner than he did on Khepera, which was "a filthy business". This time, instead of going in guns blazing, he demonstrates his power and resolve by detonating a nuclear weapon over the city of Eglonsby, and then summons them to surrender. The president of socialist Eglonsby, Pedrosan Pedro, quickly yields. But when his government learns that the preferred plunder of Space Vikings includes gold and other monetary metals, they suggest that Trask take his men to Stolgoland. This is Eglonsby's main enemy, a capitalist nation which has a gold-based currency, and its gold reserves are stored in three known locations. If Trask will raid Stolgoland instead of Eglonsby, the Eglonsbians will put their military forces at his service. All they ask is that, when the Space Vikings leave Stolgoland, they leave it in Eglonsbian hands. Thus, Trask will have much less trouble raiding Stolgoland, and the Eglonsbians will have much less trouble conquering their enemy. Trask agrees to this proposal.⁵³

Then, the Stolgonians clandestinely approach Trask and make him an offer. "If the Space Vikings would completely disable the army of Eglonsby and admit Stolgonian troops when they were ready to leave, the Stolgonians would bring them ten thousand kilos of gold. Trask affected to be very hospitable to the offer." The Stolgonians are then deceived into believing that Trask is confiscating the Eglonsbian army, when he is really loading it onto his ships in preparation for invading Stolgoland. In truth, Trask has lost any sympathy for either side, since they are so ready to stab their fellow Amaterasians in the back for a foreign invader. He ends up launching a blitzkrieg attack on Stolgoland, transporting Eglonsbian troops to the Stolgonian capital, and steals the gold in all three depositories. But after fulfilling his bargain with Pedrosan Pedro, he takes his ships back to Eglonsby, and plunders it. Eglonsby's leaders are outraged, but Trask deceived them, too; because he never actually promised not to sack their city.⁵⁴

The second planet Trask deceives is his own planet of Tanith. As shown in the previous section, he tells a Big Lie in order to persuade the two major factions at his court to abandon their narrow goals (Gram, Xochitl) and help him face the greater threat, a 'Nazi' Marduk. In this, Trask acts rather like Conn Maxwell and his father in *The Cosmic Computer*, who deceive their own associates. And in both cases, the lies turn out to be true. Dunnan really is on Marduk, and Merlin really does exist.

f) And Has A Bad Ending?

At the end of *Space Viking*, all seems well. Lucas will soon marry Lady Valerie and become King of Tanith; his friend and ally Prince Bentrík will soon become King of Marduk, and secure his dynasty by marrying Princess Myrna to his son Count Stephen; and the League of Civilized Worlds will soon be established. But despite this optimistic outlook, things may not end well for the 'Great Redeemer'. For as one of Piper's "self-reliant men", Lucas may have won the battle, but he will lose the war.⁵⁵

We know that his dream of a League of Civilized Worlds does come true, but that it is eventually taken over by Marduk, ironically the very planet Prince Trask spent so much effort to save! The League effectively becomes a 'Mardukan Empire', until the time of King Stevan IV, who is undoubtedly a descendent of Count Stephen of Ravary. Stevan IV elevates the 'Mardukan Empire' into a Galactic Empire around AE 1848, when he "proclaimed Odin the Imperial planet and Asgard the capital city."⁵⁶

Moreover, Tanith is not mentioned in Beam's stories set during the Galactic Empire, "A Slave is a Slave" and "Ministry of Disturbance", suggesting that its importance in Terro-Human history is transitory. By Imperial times, it has presumably faded to the status of a minor planet. And the fact that Jurgen saw Dom Manuel "die so horribly" may imply a bad ending for his parallel, King Lucas. Certainly not what one would expect, nor would think that Trask deserves, after all he's done. Of course, Piper was under no obligation to follow his model exactly, so he could indeed have intended for Lucas I to have a good life and a long reign. If so, then perhaps things begin their downward trend in the time of his successor.

8. A Chart of the Parallels

In sum, the parallels between *Space Viking* and *Jurgen* (or Cabell in general) include the following.

Lost Love	Countess Dorothy la Désirée, daughter and sister of a count.	Lady-Demoiselle Elaine Karvall, daughter of a baron.
Relative of	Count Emmerick (older brother), the current ruler of Poictesme.	Baron Sesar Karvall (father), the current ruler of the Barony of Karvallmills.
Attending	A ball at Bellegarde, her brother's castle.	A pre-wedding reception at Karvall House, her father's estate.
Engaged to	Jurgen, who plans "to become a duke or an emperor or something of that sort".	Baron Lucas Trask, who later becomes a prince and viceroy, and eventually a king.
Romantic interlude	On a terrace atop Bellegarde, overlooking the moonlit lands and highway below.	On an upper terrace and garden of Karvall House, overlooking the city of Wardshaven in the afternoon sun.
Subsequent misfortunes	Now 20 years in his own past, Jurgen foreknows the future of many people at the ball, most of whose fates are bad.	Lucas breaks a taboo, by calling Elaine by her married name the day before the ceremony. Bad luck follows almost immediately, beginning at the wedding the following day, which is attended by the same people who were at the reception. The main addition is Duke Angus, who officiates.
His rival	Heitman Michael (a nobleman).	Baron Andray Dunnan (nephew of Duke Angus).
"A great plague"	Michael wants to marry Dorothy, and Count Emmerick is doggedly after his sister to do so. But she loves Jurgen, and wants nothing to do with Michael.	Dunnan persistently pesters Elaine, because he obsessively loves her, and believes that she loves him too. But Elaine loves Lucas, and while surrounded by a crowd at the reception, tells Andray she wants nothing to do with him, and to go away and never bother her again.

Duel	Jurgen challenges Michael to a duel to the death, to prevent him from dancing with Dorothy, which he knows will be “the beginning of intimacy between” them, resulting in their marriage. Heitman Michael replies that “You are insane” for suggesting a fight to the death over a dance.	Lucas plans to challenge the insane Andray to a duel, if he keeps pestering Elaine after they wed. Such a duel, with pistols at 25 meters range, will certainly result in the death of one or both men.
Outcome	Although a decent swordsman, Jurgen loses the duel to the more experienced Michael. Jurgen is furious, as he knows he will not only lose Dorothy again, but his life as well. Michael declines to run Jurgen through, merely taking Dorothy’s arm to go and dance with her. As they leave, Jurgen treacherously kills Michael, by stabbing him repeatedly under his left ribs.	Humiliated and furious at Elaine’s rejection, Andray knows he is losing her to Lucas, so he decides to kill them both. As the bride and groom leave the venue, Andray treacherously shoots them with a submachine gun. Elaine, hit six times, dies instantly, and Lucas is gravely wounded, taking one bullet in the chest that misses his heart by an inch. Elaine’s father Sesar charges at Andray, and is seriously wounded in turn. He later dies of his injuries, yet his heroic act prevented Andray from finishing his rival Lucas off.
The dance	Jurgen thus prevents Michael from dancing with Dorothy. But then Wednesday ends, and Jurgen returns to being a middle-aged pawnbroker.	Lucas and Elaine do not dance at their wedding, since the feast following the ceremony is attending by everyone except the bride and groom.
Effect	Jurgen loses Dorothy (again).	Lucas loses Elaine.
A younger lady	Ettarre “La Beale”, younger sister of Count Emmerick and Dorothy, who is allowed to stay up late to attend the ball. ⁵⁷	Lady-Demoiselle Evita Valdiva, daughter of Baron Valdiva, who is underage at the time of pre-wedding reception and wedding. She does not become well-known (i.e., notorious) until a few years after Trask leaves Gram.
Subsequent misfortunes related to her	As the sister of a count, Ettarre is highly desirable, which will lead to a war between Guiron des Rocques and Maugis d’Aigremont for possession of her. This region of Poictesme will be devastated in the war; the castle of Bellegarde will be besieged, and partly burned.	As the daughter of a baron, Evita is highly desired, or at least highly sexed, as she has affairs with many men. King Angus falls under her spell, divorces his wife, Queen Flavia, and immediately marries Evita. Queen Evita and her greedy kinfolk take over the court, while ex-Queen Flavia’s brother, Duke Joris, begins assembling an army. Eventually, civil war breaks out on Gram, between King Angus and the major nobles. Much destruction ensues, perhaps including to the now-baronless Karvall House. Gram is subsequently invaded by a fleet from Hauteclere, turning the civil war into a long dynastic war, between the pretender, Omfray of Glaspth, and (perhaps) Duke Joris of Bigglersport. Resulting in the devastation and decivilizing of Gram.

The future foreseen	Jurgen foreknows “the ruinous years which lay ahead” for Poictesme.	Many ruinous years lie ahead for Gram, as Trask confidently predicts that the civil and dynastic war will last for about fifty years.
A Manuel is recalled	Having arrived 20 years in the past, Jurgen wonders “if presently Dom Manuel will be reigning over us again, that man of iron whom I saw die so horribly”. Dom Manuel thus apparently succeeds Count Emmerick as ruler of Poictesme.	Trask recalls a time in the past when “he’d led the fighting-men of Traskon during the boundary dispute with Baron Maniwel”. This parallel brings up the interesting possibility that Baron Maniwel succeeds King Angus as the ruler of Gram. But if so, Maniwel later ‘dies horribly’ in the continuing dynastic war.
The lost love is regained for a time	Jurgen meets his lost love again, in the Garden Between Dawn and Sunrise. He then regains her when Mother Sereda grants him the Wednesday on which he lost Dorothy. Jurgen changes history by killing Heitman Michael, thereby preventing him from taking Dorothy away. His lost love is horrified at the deed. Having disposed of his rival at long last, Jurgen tells his Heart’s Desire that they will ride to Lisuarte, there to be married.	Trask regains his dead wife, whose spirit joins him on several occasions. The first occurs after midnight on Tanith, when she shares his view of the stars and moon overlooking the ruined city of Rivington. The second time is after Lucas becomes a Space Viking, causing other men to lose their loves as he lost his. Spirit-Elaine is horrified at his actions. The third time is on Marduk, when she shares his view of a beautiful, alpine-like valley.
The lost love is regained at night	When Jurgen resumes his teenage form, he is with Dorothy in their “unforgotten world of moonlight”. They look out over the balustrade of Count Emmerick’s castle, onto the lands and highway below. Jurgen remains in this form until midnight, when Wednesday ends.	When spirit-Elaine joins Lucas for the first time, he is on the observation deck of the large spaceport building at Rivington. It is after midnight, so stars are shining, and a crescent of Tanith’s small but close moon is seen in the south. (This interlude also echoes the beginning of the novel, when Lucas and Elaine are on the terrace of Karvall House in Wardshaven.)
The lovers are interrupted	Jurgen and Countess Dorothy are interrupted by Heitman Michael, who has come to claim Dorothy for a dance.	Spirit-Elaine leaves Lucas just before the the arrival of Baron Rathmore. (This echoes Baron Sesar Karvall, who interrupts Elaine and Lucas in Wardshaven.)
A new love	After Jurgen lost Dorothy the first time, he eventually settled down with the merry and handsome Adelais (Dame Lisa).	Lucas eventually travels to Marduk, where he meets Lady Valerie Alvarath, the governess of Princess Myrna, daughter of the Mardukan Crown Prince. Valerie is a beautiful woman, with space-black hair and startling blue eyes, and Lucas is immediately interested in her.
The new love is lost	Jurgen defends Koschchei, and in gratitude, Koshchei takes Dame Lisa, Jurgen’s now-shrewish wife, away. They are separated for a year. ⁵⁸	Lucas returns to Tanith, and so is separated from Valerie for “a year and a half”.

The new love is regained

After a year of adventuring and love-making, Jurgen realizes he would rather have his wife, who knows all his foibles and peculiarities, back. Koshchei then returns Dame Lisa.

Valerie joins Lucas on Tanith, after the fascist Zaspas Makann takes over Marduk. She travels with Trask back to Marduk, and Marduk is liberated by an allied fleet. Lucas decides to become King of Tanith, and wonders if Lady Valerie would consent to be his queen.

The lost love is lost again

Countess Dorothy visits Jurgen a final time. She sells him a necklace, ostensibly to pay for a surprise birthday gift for her husband, Heitman Michael, but in reality to pay her current young lover's gambling debts. Jurgen finds the now-38-year old Dorothy still attractive, but is able to control his emotions. He returns home to Dame Lisa, who is "in a quite amiable frame of mind." Jurgen will never forget Dorothy, but at least he finally seems satisfied with his choice of wife, and how his life has turned out.⁵⁹

Spirit-Elaine joins Lucas one final time. She tells him that Valerie loves him, and will consent to be his wife. "*Be good to her, and she'll make you happy.*" Then she leaves, and Lucas knows "that she would never return." With his lost love's blessing, and having recently killed her murderer, Lucas finally gets over the loss of Elaine, and will soon return to Valerie, who is not far away. It is implied that they get married soon afterwards; possibly on Marduk, which would likely be the bride's choice of venue. But another ceremony may be held in Rivington, King Lucas' rebuilt capital on Tanith.

'Redeemers' of the realm

After his death, Count Manuel is transformed into "the Redeemer", the kind of hero and ruler that every man, noble or common, should aspire to be.

Prince Trask gains an enormous reputation on Gram. Such that when King Angus turns into a tyrant, the lords and people of Gram look to Trask to save, or 'redeem' them, by taking the throne for himself. But although given several opportunities to do so, Trask consistently declines to be his home world's deliverer. Thus, as Gram descends into civil and dynastic war, it may be Prince Trask's erstwhile foe, Baron Maniwel, who fills that role. As a minor nobleman, Maniwel may be forced to use deceit in pursuit of his own ends. Eventually, and perhaps unexpectedly, finding himself King of Gram, he 'redeems' the planet, presumably by reuniting it and giving it a period of peace and prosperity.

Trask as a Great Redeemer in Space Viking

The connection of Baron Trask with Baron Maniwel may alternately be Piper's subtle way of 'pointing' at Trask, who does in fact play the role of a 'great redeemer' in the story. And in the novel's climactic case, the liberation of Marduk, he uses deception to accomplish it.

Lucas redeems the nearly-bankrupt Angus, which enables the duke to fulfill his plan to become King of Gram, and is in fact the only man who can do so; next he redeems Tanith, freeing its people from slavery and recivilizing it; then he engages in trade with Beowulf and Amaterasu, enabling both to become fully-civilized as well; utilizing a Big Lie, he convinces his followers to help him deliver Marduk from a fascist takeover, and restore its monarchy in strengthened form; and finally, he redeems the known galaxy, by founding the League of Civilized Worlds, which later grows into the Galactic Empire.

“Mundus Vult Decipi”	Dom Manuel’s motto is “the world wishes to be deceived”, and he thus uses deception, playing on others’ fears and expectations, in his questionable rise to power over Poictesme.	As a Space Viking, Trask uses deception. On Amaterasu, he plays on the expectations of the leaders of Eglonsby and Stolgotland, in order to plunder both nations. Later, he tells a Big Lie, so that his divided court will forego their narrow causes and help him confront the greater threat; a fascist-ruled Marduk.
“That man of iron whom I saw die so horribly”	If Baron Maniwel becomes King of Gram, he may come to a bad end, like his namesake, Dom Manuel. Afterward, Gram sees a renewal of the dynastic war, lasting several more decades.	But if Piper’s ‘redeemer’ is Lucas Trask, then King Lucas of Tanith, civilizer, successful ruler, the savior of Marduk and founder of the League of Civilized Worlds, may not have the happy ending that one would expect, but would certainly think is his due.

A couple final parallels bear mentioning. At the beginning of *Space Viking*, Lucas mentions to Elaine that “There’s a terrace to the west at Traskon New House...Tomorrow, we’ll have our dinner there, and watch the sunset together.”⁶⁰ This recalls the beginning of *The Cosmic Computer*, written less than a year earlier, in which High Garden Terrace is presumably on the east side of Gordon Valley, because “Litchfielders loved to watch sunsets.” That seems to make High Garden Terrace a ‘garden between dusk and sunset’, a complementary parallel of the Garden Between Dawn and Sunrise in *Jurgen*. The sunset-watching terrace at Traskon New House may therefore be another echo of Cabell’s garden.

Secondly, we recall that Baron Lucas and Lady Elaine later admit that they both began inwardly calling her his wife at Duke Angus’ ball, when she was just home from Excalibur. So what exactly happened at that ball? Well, we can assume that Lucas and Elaine *danced together*, and since they both began looking on each other as a spouse that evening, this was presumably “the beginning of intimacy between” them. A parallel of how Heitman Michael danced with Countess Dorothy at Count Emmerick’s ball, during which they began to have intimate feelings for each other.

So in a weird way, Baron Trask parallels Heitman Michael, in addition to paralleling Jurgen! Jurgen never married Dorothy, Heitman Michael did. Likewise, Lucas marries Elaine. The corollary is that his rival, Andray Dunnan, parallels Jurgen in addition to paralleling Heitman Michael. Jurgen kills Michael the second time around, but loses Dorothy anyway, when Wednesday ends. Similarly, Dunnan (almost) kills Trask (and does kill Baron Karvall), but loses Elaine anyway, because she is killed in the gunfire.

This parallel also suggests that, just as Heitman Michael and Countess Dorothy were acquainted before the Count’s ball, Baron Trask and Lady Elaine were acquainted before Duke Angus’ ball. Since she was just home from school on Excalibur, this acquaintance could have occurred before Elaine left Gram. Her age at that time would have been 17 or 18, the same age as Dorothy when Jurgen romances her, as well as when Michael takes her away from him.

Trask tells Otto Harkaman that he also attended school on Excalibur,⁶¹ so the question becomes how much older Lucas is than Elaine. Possibly he is only a couple years older, in which case he may have met Elaine when she was about 15 years old, then got reacquainted with her while they were both at the University of Camelot.

But if the Heitman Michael parallel holds, Lucas should be about ten years older than Elaine. This would mean that Elaine was too young to be of much interest to Trask when she left Gram for school. They may have been acquainted, but she would have been a “teeny-bopper”, while he was presumably in his late 20s; a responsible nobleman, landowner and rancher. It was only when Elaine returned four years later, a more mature, educated and responsible noblewoman, that he found her attractive enough to pursue. At the beginning of *Space Viking*, Elaine would then be 22 or 23 years old, while Trask is in his late 20s (like Michael) or early 30s.

Space Viking itself takes place over many years. The exact number is not known, but John Carr, Piper’s biographer, places the Battle of Marduk nine years after Trask leaves Gram.⁶² Thus, when Lucas marries his new love, Lady Valerie, he could be in his late 30s or early 40s. Roughly the same age as Jurgen when he meets and romances his lost love again. And, similar to Michael’s age compared to Dorothy’s, Trask could be roughly ten years older than Valerie.

9. Conclusion

In my previous paper, "The *Countess Dorothy*: A Theme of Lost Love", it was shown that Piper modeled the theme of lost love from James Branch Cabell's novel *Jurgen*, and seemingly from his own life as well. As he wrote in 1927, reflecting on his own youthful 'lost love', 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". Piper added, "Maybe I'll do a story on that theme, some time."⁶³

As we saw in that paper, he appears to have fulfilled that prediction in *The Cosmic Computer*, and in this paper, we see that he did the same thing in his next novel, *Space Viking*. And to an even greater degree, because while Conn Maxwell is never haunted by the memory of his lost love, Lynne Fawzi (since she seems to no longer exist as a character); Lucas Trask is actually visited by his lost love, the discarnate Lady Elaine, several times after her untimely death.

Beam also appears to have modeled Cabell more closely in *Space Viking* than he did in *The Cosmic Computer*. Possibly because *The Cosmic Computer* was an expanded version of his earlier story, "Graveyard of Dreams"; but more importantly, the main literary model he used for the novelized version was Isaac Asimov's Foundation series.⁶⁴

This closer modeling of Cabell in *Space Viking* is demonstrated in several major differences between Beam's novels. The first major difference is the social systems. In *The Cosmic Computer*, the planet Poictesme has a democratic government, quite unlike the feudal system of Cabell's fictional French province. *Space Viking*, however, is full of feudalism. The Sword-Worlds are feudal in nature, being ruled by kings, dukes, counts and barons.⁶⁵ So are some of the civilized worlds; most notably Marduk, which is reigned over by King Mikhyll, Crown Prince Edvard, Prince Vandarvant, and later, Prince Simon Bentrack, who becomes King Simon I.

Thus, the parallels between Cabell's characters and Piper's are much closer this time. Lady Elaine Karvall is a noblewoman, and when she marries Baron Trask of Traskon, she becomes the Baroness Trask; paralleling Countess Dorothy who marries the nobleman Heitman Michael. We can add that Trask's slow but steady elevation, starting as Baron of Traskon, then to Lord of Tanith, then Prince and Viceroy of Tanith, and finally to King, parallels Jurgen's journey. For during his year of second-youth errantry, Jurgen ennobles himself repeatedly, promoting himself in rank during each amorous episode. His titles include duke, king, emperor and pope.⁶⁶

Another big difference is that, in *The Cosmic Computer*, the main character only loses his girlfriend (Lynne Fawzi, who again Piper apparently erased from existence), while in *Space Viking*, the main character loses his wife. This parallels Jurgen more closely, who as we've seen loses his wife, Dame Lisa, for an entire year. And it parallels the author's life more closely as well, since after only 2 ½ years of marriage, Beam split from his wife, Betty. Indeed, the fact that Trask loses Elaine less than a half hour after getting married seems to parallel Beam, who on his wedding day left his "lawful bride of three hours behind" to take the train back to Altoona.⁶⁷

Parenthetically, there may also be an autobiographical aspect in how *Space Viking* ends. We've seen that Trask's new love, the dark-haired Lady Valerie, parallels Dame Lisa; and Lucas getting over Elaine parallels Jurgen, who finally accepts the loss of Dorothy, as well as the way his life turned out. However, by having Lucas end the novel by saying "Goodbye, Elaine", Beam may have been figuratively 'letting go' of Betty, and perhaps even hoping for a new woman to come along.

A third difference is that the number of 'French' planets is greater this time. In *The Cosmic Computer*, there are two; the planet Poictesme itself, with its regions like Acaire, Morven and Barathrum; and Baldur, with its capital Paris-on-Baldur. Both are Federation worlds. In *Space Viking*, however, there are seven. The first is Baldur, mentioned as being one of the few remaining civilized worlds. The other six are all found in the Sword-Worlds, and include the names of famous swords from French chivalry and romance. These are the blades of Emperor Charlemagne and some of his paladins; Joyeuse (Charlemagne), Durendal (Roland, most famous of the paladins) Flamberge (Renaud de Montauban), Haulteclere (Oliver), Curtana (Ogier the Dane) and Morglay (Ganelon, the traitor).

It is thus the surprising fact that fully half the Sword-Worlds are 'French' planets! The other six are a mix of British (Excalibur), Irish (Caladbolg), Spanish (Tizona and Colada) and Norse blades (Quernbiter and Gram). This is probably due to the fact that Piper visited the Louvre while in Paris, where he "inspected the crown jewels and the state swords of monarchy. He added a trip to Napoleon's tomb".⁶⁸

At the Louvre, he almost certainly saw Joyeuse itself. "A sword identified as Joyeuse was used in French royal coronation ceremonies since the 13th century, and is now kept at the [Louvre](#)." ⁶⁹ And Beam's side trip to Napoleon's tomb seems connected to the King of Flamberge, whom he named 'Napolyon', probably the greatest French ruler after Charlemagne. ⁷⁰ Thus, the very concept of a group of 'Sword-Worlds' seems to owe its creation to this visit.

Piper's novel *The Cosmic Computer* takes place mainly on Poictesme, and it certainly would have helped the present thesis if *Space Viking* began on one of the 'French' planets in the Sword-Worlds. Particularly since the romantic interlude between Lucas and Elaine on the terrace at Karvall House parallels the romantic interlude between Jurgen and Dorothy by the balustrade of Bellegarde. But Beam began his tale on Gram, named for the sword of Sigurd, which he used to kill the dragon Fafnir. ⁷¹ And yet, it is interesting that near the end of the novel, Gram is invaded by a major force from Haulteclere, one of the 'French' Sword-Worlds. This dynastic war is projected to last 50 years, and we've seen that the devastation of Gram parallels the devastation of Poictesme, in the war over La Beale Ettare, between Guiron des Rocques and Maugis d'Aigremont.

But in truth, the devastation also involves the other 'French' Sword-Worlds. As related by Lucas Trask, dynastic wars are currently occurring on Durendal, which has drawn in Flamberge and Joyeuse; and Morglay, whose "dynastic war of a couple of centuries ago, [was] still sputtering and smoking." Five out of the six 'French' Sword-Worlds are therefore engaged in hostilities, which are so endemic and interminable that they have brought steady decline to their entire civilization. "The whole level of Sword-World life was sinking...so slowly as to be evident only from the records and monuments of the past." ⁷²

Thus, the "ruinous years which lay ahead" for Gram also lie ahead for the other Sword-Worlds, particularly the 'French' ones.

And finally, however many parallels I have discovered, there may be many I have missed. Because I have only read a few of Cabell's novels of Poictesme. Perhaps more interesting details, with relevance to *The Cosmic Computer* and/or *Space Viking*, will be revealed in the process of reading the rest.

Nor is *Space Viking* the end of the lost love theme in Piper. Indeed, it seems to be fairly common in his later works, possibly beginning back when Beam wrote *Little Fuzzy*. This was also after he had split with Betty, and indeed preceded the writing of *The Cosmic Computer* and *Space Viking*. For there are at least a couple of lost loves in that novel.

Unsurprisingly, they start with the main character, Jack Holloway, who as an old man reminisces about lost loved ones, in a rather Jurgen-like manner. "Once he, too, had lived in a pleasant place, where he'd had fun, and could have been happy if he hadn't thought there was something he'd had to do. So he had gone away, leaving grieved people behind him." This is almost certainly a fictionalized allusion to when Beam left Betty in Paris, and sailed back to America. Jack has been "on more planets than he could name at the moment," ⁷³ so one can only wonder which planet he left grieving people behind on. Given that Jack's real-life parallel is H. Beam Piper, the obvious choice would be Baldur, whose capital is Paris-on-Baldur. Jack's lost loves, who may have included a special lady, are never 'regained'; but 'a new love is gained' in the form of the Fuzzies, who bring happiness back into his life.

There's also a Jurgen-Dorothy like split and reunion between two lovers. Gerd van Riebeek and Ruth Ortheris are very much in love, but Gerd 'loses' her when Ruth, who is a Company woman, seems to side with the Chartered Zarathustra Company against the Fuzzies. As a xeno-naturalist who is concerned with the native flora and fauna of Zarathustra, and right now the Fuzzies in particular, Gerd feels betrayed by Ruth. This parallels Jurgen, who is betrayed by Dorothy. But at the trial it is revealed that Ruth was secretly helping the Fuzzies, and Gerd 'regains' his lost love by the end of the novel. They are even engaged to be married. ⁷⁴

Piper's main characters in *Little Fuzzy* are much older than the teenaged lovers in *Jurgen*, not to mention the early to mid-20s male lead in *The Cosmic Computer*, Conn Maxwell. The situations of Jack Holloway, Gerd van Riebeek and Ruth Ortheris feel more mature, and so are possibly even more true to Beam's life, than the ones in *The Cosmic Computer* and *Space Viking*.

ENDNOTES

1. The Lost Love Theme Continued in *Space Viking*

1. See "The *Countess Dorothy*: A Theme of Lost Love", March 2024. (www.astravian.com)
2. John F. Carr, *H. Beam Piper: A Biography*, (Jefferson, NC: McFarland & Co., Inc., 2008), pp. 171, 173, 175
3. H. Beam Piper, *Space Viking* (New York, NY: Ace Books, 1963), pp. 1, 4
4. James Branch Cabell, *Jurgen* (New York, NY: Grosset & Dunlap, 1919), pp. 22, 26, 49 Mentioned as being published "by arrangement with Robert M. McBride & Company" in 1927.
Dorothy echoes that "Jurgen is going to be a duke".
5. Piper, *Space Viking*, pp. 1, 2, emphasis added
6. Cabell, *Jurgen*, pp. 49, 50, 52
7. Piper, *Space Viking*, pp. 1, 24, 26, 27, 30, 31, 32, 76-98, 118 The trouble Trask foresees is with Andray Dunnann, his 'rival' for Elaine, who he expects to have to challenge to a duel. But Dunnann pre-empts the challenge by shooting up their wedding the next day. (See next section, **Parallel Rivals for the Lost Love's Hand**.)
8. *Ibid.*, pp. 105, 106, 122, 123, 124, 125, 128, 129
9. *Ibid.*, p. 130
10. *Ibid.*, pp. 188, 189, 192, 195, 204, 206
11. *Ibid.*, p. 118 Though Lady Lavina's daughter and husband were murdered, at least she avoids getting caught up in Gram's fifty-year dynastic war, during which untold numbers of daughters and husbands, and mothers, will die.

2. Parallel Rivals for the Lost Love's Hand

12. *Ibid.*, p. 133; and Cabell, *Jurgen*, pp. 23, 24, 26, 52
13. Piper, *Space Viking*, pp. 3, 5, 15, 17
14. Cabell, *Jurgen*, pp. 54, 55
15. Piper, *Space Viking*, pp. 3, 15, 23, 24, 26
16. *Ibid.*, p. 241

3. The Lost Love Regained for a Time

17. *Ibid.*, pp. 56, 57, 58
18. *Ibid.*, pp. 2, 61, 62
19. *Ibid.*, p. 1
20. *Ibid.*, pp. 80, 82; and Cabell, *Jurgen*, pp. 55, 56, 57
21. Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 170

4. A New Love Appears

22. *Ibid.*, pp. 171, 176, 178, 179

23. Ibid., pp. 177, 183

24. Ibid., pp. 198, 213, 220 This is not actually stated by Piper, but not long after this voyage, Elaine says that “*She loves you, Lucas.*” Lady Valerie may have acquired feelings for Trask on Marduk, but he wasn’t there for very long. The only time she could have really fallen for Lucas was during her time on Tanith, and especially the long voyage from Tanith to Gimli, and then Marduk. That’s the only period where Beam says they spend a lot of time together. (p. 220)

25. Ibid., pp. 242, 243

5. An Undying Love, and Other Lost Loves in *Space Viking*

26. Cabell, *Jurgen*, pp. 364, 365

27. Piper, *Space Viking*, pp. 204, 230

6. Parallel French Names, and the Derivation of Other Names

28. From page 306 of my ancient, tattered dictionary. One would guess that demoiselle is related to “mademoiselle”, possibly denoting the difference between a girl (demoiselle) and a woman (mademoiselle).

29. Cabell, *Jurgen*, p. 367

30. Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 15

31. H. Beam Piper, *Empire* (New York, NY: Ace Books, 1981), pp. 73, 125

32. Ibid., pp. 63, 64, 69, 71, 115

33. And this brings to mind Rafael Sabatini, another author Piper admired. In *The Sea Hawk*, the romantic interest of Captain Geoffrey Thorpe (Errol Flynn) is Dona Maria de Cordoba (Brenda Marshall), the niece of Don Jose de Cordoba (Claude Rains), the Spanish ambassador to the court of Queen Elizabeth. Dona Maria’s father was Spanish, but her mother was English. Thus, the ‘Spanish’ Lady Valerie Alvarath/Alvarado might then have gotten her blue eyes from a purely Mardukan source. For Piper presented the constitutional monarchy of Marduk as very similar to the contemporary British monarchy, and Prince Simon Bentrík has blond hair. (Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 141)

7. Parallel Rulers Named Manuel?

34. Piper, *Space Viking*, pp. 77, 78

35. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Branch_Cabell

36. Cabell, *Jurgen*, p. 24

37. James Branch Cabell, *The Cream of the Jest* (New York, NY: Robert M. McBride & Co., 1927), pp. 4-5

38. Cabell, *Jurgen*, p. 49

39. Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 106, 204

40. Ibid., pp. 106, 123, 124, 242 Given that many Sword-Worlders ship out as Space Vikings, it is also possible for Baron Maniwel to leave Gram, and found his own base on a planet in the Old Federation, as Baron Trask does. But that would not follow the Cabell model, in which Manuel becomes the ruler of his native county.

41. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/James_Branch_Cabell

42. Ibid.

43. Piper, *Space Viking*, pp. 129, 130

44. Ibid., pp. 187, 188, 193, 203, 204, 205, 206

45. Ibid., pp. 30, 31, 33-34, 67

46. Ibid., p. 11, emphasis added

47. Ibid., pp. 37, 58-60, 62, 65, 66, 68-70, 76-98, 102, 105-107, 109, 110, 218 After the fall of the Federation, Gilgamesh appears to be the first planet to recivilize itself. (ibid., p. 112) This occurs around AE 1300. But unbeknownst to Trask and the rest of the galaxy, Gilgamesh had Merlin's help. (See my paper, "The Cosmic Computer—Piper's Foundation?") Ithavoll may be next. It used to be a colony of Marduk, but seceded 300 years ago, or about AE 1410. King Mikhyll says that "Today it is a civilized world, and one of Marduk's best friends." (ibid., p. 162) Beowulf becomes fully civilized before Tanith (p. 126), because it only lacks hyperdrive, which Trask helps them recover. Tanith itself is apparently next, followed by Amaterasu. (ibid., pp. 187, 218)

48. Ibid., pp. 93, 118, 119, 126, 187, 193

49. Ibid., pp. 195-197, 201, 202, 204-212, 213, 215-218, 221, 222, 225-242

50. Ibid., p. 242; Piper, *Empire*, p. 87; and Carr, *Piper Biography*, p. 213, 214

51. Piper, *Space Viking*, pp. 8, 91, 95, 96

52. Notwithstanding the fact that most people are basically good, wouldn't we all like to have our own ship, travel among the stars, become king of our own planet, raid other worlds, destroy our enemies, save and uplift the galaxy, and marry a beautiful lady? After reading *Space Viking* for the first time way back in 1977, my teenage self certainly thought so. And almost a half-century later (shouldn't that dynastic war on Gram be just about over?), I still do.

53. Piper, *Space Viking*, pp. 81, 87, 88

54. Ibid., pp. 90, 91

55. John F. Carr, Introduction to *Empire*, p. 9 According to John, self-reliant men like Conn Maxwell, Lucas Trask and Galactic Emperor Paul XXII "are destined to failure because of the deterministic forces of history. In each of these stories [*The Cosmic Computer*, *Space Viking* and "Ministry of Disturbance"] we have Piper's self-reliant man...versus the tide of history. At the end of each of these stories it appears as though the self-reliant man has won; however in future stories we learn that while the battle may have been won, the war was lost."

56. Piper, *Empire*, p. 136; and Carr, timeline

8. A Chart of the Parallels

57. Cabell, *Cream Jest*, p. 6 "La Beale" (the good or beautiful) seems very similar to "la Désirée" (the beautiful or desirable), the epithet of Ettare's older sister, Countess Dorothy. Also, the fact that *The Cream of the Jest* begins with the coming nuptials of Ettare seems very similar to *Space Viking*, which begins with the coming nuptials of Elaine Karvall. The matching names Ettare and Elaine would then parallel the matching names of Ettare and Evita.

Thus, in addition to paralleling Countess Dorothy, Lady Elaine may also parallel La Beale Ettare. This can explain Piper's choice of a name beginning with 'E' for his lost love. Elaine is true to Lucas, even as Ettare is true to her love, Sir Guiron des Rocques. But Countess Dorothy was not true to Jurgen, so she cannot be paralleled by Elaine. The only faithless woman in *Space Viking* is Evita Valdiva, whose name also begins with E, and is not true to her husband King Angus; or indeed, to any man.

It is also interesting that Elaine's last name is similar to Evita's. Kar-vall, Val-dive. They share a syllable. This may have been another subtle way for Beam to connect his young, desirable lady characters, the good and the bad (Elaine, Evita) with those of Cabell (Ettare, Dorothy).

58. Cabell, *Jurgen*, p. 350

59. Ibid., pp. 364-367 Another aspect of letting Dorothy go, or perhaps of being careful what you wish for, is mentioned earlier in the novel. Having killed Heitman Michael, the rejuvenated Jurgen begins making love to the horrified but strangely compliant Dorothy. Then his Mother Sereda-granted Wednesday ends. Jurgen returns to being middle-aged, and he finds himself making out with his own time's Countess Dorothy, who is now nearing

middle age herself. “[T]he face of Dorothy altered, her flesh roughened under his touch, and her cheeks fell away, and fine lines came about her eyes...and she was leering at him, and he was touching her everywhere, this horrible lascivious woman, who was certainly quite old enough to know better than to permit such liberties. And her breath was sour and nauseous. Jurgen drew away from her, with a shiver of loathing, and he closed his eyes, to shut away that sensual face.” Jurgen hurriedly leaves to seek his wife, and advises Countess Dorothy to seek her husband. (ibid., p. 58, 59)

60. Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 2

61. Ibid., p. 32

62. Piper, *Empire*, timeline before the introduction, titled “Terro-Human Future History Chronology”. Presumably compiled by John Carr and Jerry Pournelle.

9. Conclusion

63. Carr, *Piper Biography*, p. 48

64. See my 2015 paper, “*The Cosmic Computer—Piper’s Foundation?*” (www.astravian.com)

65. Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 148-149

66. [Summary of Jurgen: a Comedy of Justice \(unc.edu\)](#) So Jurgen does become an emperor, after all!

67. Piper, *Space Viking*, pp. 67, 68; and Carr, *Piper Biography*, pp. 96, 97, 101, 109, 132 The first four citations from Carr’s biography are sourced from Piper’s diaries; the last is sourced from Mike Knerr’s unpublished manuscript, “Piper”, dated 1983, pp. 74, 75. Beam and Betty appear to have met sometime in late 1954; they married on March 25, 1955, and split in Paris on September 14, 1957.

68. Carr, *Piper Biography*, p. 121 Sourced from Knerr’s “Piper”, pp. 54-55.

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

70. Piper, *Space Viking*, p. 123 We can also add Napolyon to the list of Piper’s ‘future’ versions of personal names, particularly the French ones like Andray and Pyairr.

71. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gram>

72. Ibid., pp. 9, 192 I should also conclude this paper by noting the difference in tone between Cabell and Piper. Cabell’s novels are witty, amusing and lighthearted; while Piper’s are more serious, being written as ‘historical’ novels set in the future. This is no doubt due to Beam’s great love of history, as well as the influence of historical novelists like Rafael Sabatini, whom he admired.

73. H. Beam Piper, *Little Fuzzy* (New York, NY: Ace Books, 1962), pp. 5, 27

74. Ibid., pp. 13-15, 77, 107, 108, 109, 112, 113, 154-157, 162, 171