

Active Dark Object

Black stone, like the one found in Asshai, seems to drink light. Similar at the House of Undying:

- See how it drinks the morning sun? Let us go before it drinks us as well.

Observation 1: Some objects or places associated with “black” seem to drink light.

Observation 2: Some of the black stone objects fell from the sky.

If the planetary system of WoIaF has a celestial object with properties of drinking, consuming light what would it look like for observers? Is there a celestial object with this property? Here is my leading candidate.

The Lion of Night is strongly associated with darkness. That might not seem much, because night = darkness, right? However, MMoL is not associated with day. Apparently, it is a moon or a constellation – both better visible at night. So, they both have association with night, but LoN is specifically called that. Why *Lion* of Night?

Lion is an animal to run away from. Lion comes and other animals scatter or hide.

Proposition 1. LoN is a celestial object that seems to obscure regular stars, to scatter them away. I will not be able to logically deduce that. The only justification I can offer is that *if* that celestial object does that, then name Lion would seem appropriate. As it passes through the night sky it seems to eat other stars – obscure them, but may be also dim the others around it.

Where I am heading with this is: the Lion of Night is a moon or a planet. For simplicity, I will say “planet”. This planet is unique and not like any planets we know. It is made from the black stone, which drinks light. Thus, it is not really observable. Here is another reason for the name Lion: because it hides. Quotes.

“He lurks in a hiding place as a lion in his lair; He lurks to catch the afflicted;” Psalms 10:9. “... as a young lion lurking in hiding places.” Psalm 17:12. And most strikingly Lamentations 3:10: “Like a lion in secret places.”

Two associations we, humans, have with lion – scares lesser animals and hides – are consistent with the suggested behavior and nature of this astronomical object: it is something that obscures other objects, that for an observer would look like he is chasing or eating them, but by itself is not visible, because it is *dark*. I like this idea in itself – without necessary a connection with ASoIaF.

Where an inspiration for that could come from? GRRM knows and loves both sci-fi and plain science. There are *plenty of* objects that could fit “astronomical object consuming light”:

Black Holes

Dark Matter

Because the black stone objects are found on the surface let us choose one of them – dark matter.

Stronger Proposition 1. Oily black stone is Dark Matter. In a vicinity of the World there is a celestial object made from Dark Matter. The objects on the surface come from that object. Unlike our universe’s dark matter which simply doesn’t interact with the light, the Ice and Fire’s Dark Matter is *Actively Dark* - it consumes the light around it.

Below I will list facts that could be explained or better understood with that theory. By themselves, they don’t prove the theory. At the same time, I am not aware of another theory that explains and connects all of them.

> ... the God-on-Earth, the only begotten son of the Lion of Night and Maiden-Made-of-Light, who traveled about his domains in a palanquin carved from a single pearl and carried by a hundred queens, his wives. For ten thousand years the Great Empire of the Dawn flourished in peace and plenty under the God-on-Earth, until at last he ascended to the stars to join his forebears. The World of Ice & Fire.

Who traveled about his domains. This is the only action he did? He traveled about his domains? It looks a lot like a planet orbiting a sun. That’s what planets do – they travel and nothing else. The hundred queens might be comets or asteroids accompanying this celestial body.

“Ascended to the stars to join his forebears.” His forebears are LoN and MMoL. And he ascends to the stars to join them. Hence, they are at the stars. That establishes astronomical/space nature of LoN and MMoL.

Despairing of the evil that had been unleashed on earth, the Maiden-Made-of-Light turned her back upon the world, and the Lion of Night came forth in all his wroth to punish the wickedness of men. The World of Ice & Fire.

I will not be able to connect the moral aspect of the story with the proposed astronomical nature of LoN and MMoL. That is a weak point of this and all known to me astronomical theories. What I can see however in this passage is: MMoL turning her back. MMoL is a moon. What is the other side of the moon? It is dark. So, essentially it is saying: moon’s light dims. Why would it dim? Because the LoN came who absorbs the light around it.