

For many years, the online resource for John Updike studies was *The Centaurian*, a website maintained by James Yerkes with the assistance of a great many people. Here is one of the surviving pages from that website, created by Yerkes and Jim Morrison:

Harry [Harold C. "Rabbit"] Angstrom's Family Tree and Relationships

<http://web.archive.org/web/20090129085500/http://userpages.prexar.com/joyerkes/Item0.html>

Jim Morrison and I have pieced together the Harry Angstrom family tree and key relationships which should be of help to all *Rabbit* series readers. Additions and corrections are welcome. Just write to the page email as noted above. We hope readers will find this helpful.

Harry [Harold C. "Rabbit"] Angstrom's Family Tree and Relationships

Earl W. Angstrom married to Mary R. Angstrom

Children: Harold C. [Harry "Rabbit"] Angstrom and Miriam (Mim) Angstrom

Fred Springer married to Bessie [Koerner] Springer

Child: Janice [née Springer] Angstrom

Harry marries Janice [Springer] Angstrom

Children: Rebecca June Angstrom (deceased) and Nelson Springer Angstrom

Harry has an affair with Ruth Leonard

Ruth Leonard marries Fred Byer

Child out of wedlock by Ruth [née Leonard] Byer:

Annabelle [Angstrom] Byer

Harry slept with a flower-child named Jill

Harry maintained a long affair with Thelma Harrison

Harry slept with Nelson's wife "Pru" once

Nelson Angstrom marries Teresa "Pru" [née Lubell] Angstrom

Children: Roy Angstrom and Judy Angstrom

Janice had a live-in affair with Charlie Stavros

Janice Angstrom after Harry's death marries Ronnie [Raymond] Harrison, Thelma's husband.

Children of Ronnie and Thelma Harrison (and step-mother Janice):

Alex and Georgie and Ron, Jr. (wife Margie)

Ron, Jr. has three children: 2 boys, 1 girl

Jim Morrison has also constructed a relationship narrative which will be very helpful to newer readers of Updike's Rabbit series:

Earl Angstrom was married to Mary Angstrom and they had two children: Harry (Rabbit) Angstrom and Miriam (Mim) Angstrom.

Fred Springer was married to Bessie Springer and I think had only one child: Janice Springer.

Harry Angstrom married Janice Springer and they had two children: Nelson and Rebecca (Becky). Rebecca died at an early age.

Ruth Leonard married Fred Byer and they raised the girl Annebelle Byer, who may have been Harry's child.

Nelson Angstrom married Teresa "Pru" Lubell. Harry slept with Pru once.

Charlie Stavros worked at Springer Motors alongside Harry and not only slept with Janice while she and Harry were still married, but he also slept with Harry's sister, Mim.

Earl + Mary Angstrom=Harry and Miriam Angstrom

Fred +Bessie Springer=Janice Springer

Harry+Janice=Nelson and Rebecca Angstrom

Ruth Leonard + Fred Byer (or Harry)=Annebelle Byer

Ronnie Harrison was married to Thelma Harrison. Ronnie played high school basketball with Harry. He also slept with Ruth Leonard before she became Harry's lover in Rabbit, Run. And yet again, in Rabbit is Rich, he sleeps with a girl Harry lusts after, Cindy Murkett.

Thelma Harrison becomes Harry's lover near the end of Rabbit is Rich, and the affair continues for the next ten years, up until near her death from lupus in Rabbit at Rest. She tells her husband about the affair on her deathbed, and Ronnie in turn speaks to Harry about it.

It's clear that Ronnie and Harry have been linked for a long time through their desires for the same women, and it's not surprising to find Ronnie and Janice married.

12 February 2007