

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**

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**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**

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**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**