

Gene Wolfe review:

The SF-Lovers list — 4 messages, 4 voices, 06 Apr 1994

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Dennis Carlyle — 06 Apr 1994, 00:11

Wolfe's prose remains fine and precise. There's a temptation to remark that it contains fewer of the deep notes, the magical resonances and ironies that throb through the original *_Book_* ... but many of those moments of the *_Book_* went unrecognized or half-understood until the entire work was available for rereading as a whole. *_The Book of the Long Sun_* remains maddeningly incomplete.

Thanks for the well-written review. Do you know of any serious literary criticism of Gene Wolfe? I hear that Ursula Le Guin is, or has, put together a book of critical studies of SF, and I would be surprised if Wolfe was not covered in some form in such a volume.

Dennis Carlyle
Vancouver, Canada
Dennis_Carlyle at amsbbs.bc.ca

Gareth Rees — 06 Apr 1994, 10:02 · follows Dennis Carlyle

Dennis Carlyle writes:

Do you know of any serious literary criticism of Gene Wolfe?

There's considerable discussion of 'The Book of the New Sun' and various exciting questions like, "Who was Severian's mother?" in John Clute's collection of essays and reviews, 'Strokes'.

There's a chapter on 'The Fifth Head of Cerberus' in Albert Wendland's study of the uses of scientific accuracy and plausibility in sf 'Science, myth and the fictional creation of alien worlds'.

Gareth Rees

P Nielsen Hayden — 07 Apr 1994, 01:28 · follows Gareth Rees

Dennis_Carlyle at amsbbs.bc.ca (Dennis Carlyle) writes:

Do you know of any serious literary criticism of Gene Wolfe?

There's been a fair bit, notably in FOUNDATION and the frequently awful (but quite serious) SCIENCE-FICTION STUDIES. John Clute is editing, for Serconia Press, a volume of essays about Wolfe by various academics and practicing critics.

Patrick Nielsen Hayden
senior editor
Tor Books

Mark T Pitcavage — 07 Apr 1994, 05:22 · follows P Nielsen Hayden

Dennis Carlyle <Dennis_Carlyle at amsbbs.bc.ca> wrote:
Do you know of any serious literary criticism of Gene Wolfe?

There is the 1986 _Gene Wolfe_ by Joan Gordon.