

Gene Wolfe's Soldier of the Mist: sequels?

The SF-Lovers list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 07 Feb 1991

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Eric SASSAMAN — 07 Feb 1991, 03:59

Anyone have any opinions on the sequels to Gene Wolfe's Soldier of the Mist? Are they as good as Soldier?

Eric Sassaman

MATT AUSTERN — 12 Feb 1991, 21:52 · follows Eric SASSAMAN

eric@microsoft.UUCP (Eric SASSAMAN) writes:

Anyone have any opinions on the sequels to Gene Wolfe's Soldier of the Mist? Are they as good as Soldier?

There is only one sequel to Soldier of the Mist, called Soldier of Arete. I understand that Wolfe plans to write at least one more, but I could be mistaken about that.

Soldier of Arete disappointed me. I certainly do still recommend it: it still has the dense, careful prose that one expects from Wolfe, and the same slightly alien view of the world that Soldier of the Mist had. Still, it just didn't seem to me to have the same coherence.

I would almost call Soldier of Arete sloppy (at least by the standard of other Wolfe): characters and plot elements appeared and disappeared for no reason that was apparent to me, and it didn't seem to me that the book really went anywhere. What happened to the theme in Soldier of the Mist, of Latro's sin against Hecate and his attempt at restitution?

Of course, if Wolfe really does plan to write a sequel, it could be that it's wrong to judge the coherence of Soldier of Arete in isolation.

Matthew Austern