

Emmet Otter's Jugband Castle

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 30 Nov 1998

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Dan Parmenter — 30 Nov 1998, 08:42

From: m.driussi at genie.com

Re: CASTLE OF THE OTTER. This is now part of CASTLE OF DAYS (an omnibus of COTA and GENE WOLFE'S BOOK OF DAYS, a collection of short stories, and a third section of previously uncollected stuff). You pretty much need it. Somebody around here quietly argues that "Books in TBOTNS" of PLAN[E]T ENGINEERING ought to have been put into CASTLE OF DAYS, and there is merit to that notion since it is the only Urth essay in PE, and a powerful one at that.

If you mean me (and it's conceivable that you don't), what I've argued for is slightly more radical: I'd like to see OTTER reissued under that name, with "Books in Books of the New Sun" substituted for what seems like several chapters worth of capsule rave reviews that Wolfe included in the original edition. I don't know if it was vanity or the desire to fill out pages, but it gets a bit tiresome after a while. It might also be nice to have an additional essay by Wolfe on the entire series, since OTTER actually predates CITADEL; indeed, its title is a play on the mis-reported title presented in a LOCUS "coming attractions" feature.

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