

Silk and Weer

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 13 Apr 1999

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Roy C. Lackey — 13 Apr 1999, 01:11

On Mon, 12 Apr 1999 19:39:29 wombat wrote:

>Now _that_ is predestination, pure and simple. FWIW

That's not predestination. That's a statement about the unchanging and unending love which god has for its creations. The Outsider might not know what Silk will do--though he probably does, given his role in the story--but no matter what Silk does, it cannot damage god's love for him.<<

I agree with you--and all the others--who said that Silk's thought is tantamount to "unconditional love". Wolfe very likely intended it that way. I should not have said "pure and simple"; it's a little more complicated than that, but I didn't think this list was the forum for a religious debate, so I didn't respond--at least not here. Poor Robert Borski--very graciously--suffered my theological rant, which I will not repeat. <g> I think Alex David Groce understood my reasoning (see his earlier post); I just don't agree with St. Augustine.

On Mon, 12 Apr 1999 21:09:17 Alex David Groce wrote:

On Apr 12, 7:36pm, Kevin J. Maroney wrote:

Considering the trail of dead bodies Weer leaves behind him, I'm not sure that I *want* to identify with Weer. Wolfe's protagonists are not admirable or likable people, for the most part (the "Free" quartet being a very pleasant exception).

Well, some of us aren't convinced that Weer is responsible for anyone's death other than (A) the boy on the stairs, and that's not exactly murder and (B) maybe (there is something sinister about it at any rate) the frozen-freezer guy. I think the "Weer as mass murderer" hypothesis is most likely nonsense.<<

I agree with Alex on this one: In the case of (A), Weer was not of an age to be morally culpable, even if it wasn't an accident, and (B) was an instance of youthful stupidity--if Weer was guilty at all--not malice. He definitely didn't kill Vi. I never understood where the "mass murderer" theory came from.

Roy