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The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 25 Oct 1999

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Patri10629 — 25 Oct 1999, 23:51

Rave on Lupes!

The discourse has trickled right up my alley.

To put Alga's point a bit more crudely: I love the fact that Wolfe has taken the base materials of given/cliched genre forms and transformed them. The most decadent and successful form of recent popular literature: the extended sf/fantasy sequence, becomes, in his hands, something (I would argue) original. Form isn't everything. Unless you think three chords can't make a great original pop song. (Robert Johnson, "Gloria")

Heck he even plays with the forms: 2: the failed trilogy (the soldier books), 5: a quatrain (right word?) and a coda (New Sun), 4: the incomplete (or shall we say "dangling") quatrain (Long Sun) and, 3: a trilogy (short sun). 12 books in the Sun series. Hmmm. A trilogy in 12 parts. What do you call that?

Wouldn't it be funny if, years from now, someone postulates that the Sun books are really One book?

Incidentally, the extended series form allows him an income spread over years--not a little matter, buds.

Apologies for being redundant and obvious. And, Alga, I Like it when you get pompous.

best,

Patrick O'Leary