

Wolfe's humor

The Urth list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 24 Oct 1997

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adam louis stephanides — 24 Oct 1997, 14:34

On Fri, 24 Oct 1997 urth-errors at lists.best.com wrote:

From: "Tony Ellis" <tellis at futurenet.co.uk>

Subject: Re: The Quiet Urth

Yes, Wolfe is a Catholic, but he is also a polymath, and a terrible punster, and I find plenty of double meanings and conceits in his stories that have nothing to do with Christian themes.

This reminds me of a topic that I've long been intending to bring up: Wolfe's humor. Most of Wolfe's work strikes me as utterly solemn (though there are undoubtedly things I'm missing); and his overtly humorous stories have, in my opinion, a lower proportion of successes than most of the other stuff he tries his hand at. But I do like the humorous short stories "Car Sinister" (though I suspect I may be a minority in this) and "An Article about Hunting." And "For-lesen," one of my favorites too, is full of dark humor of the sort that Kafka was so good at. Anybody have any other favorites?

--Adam

Michael Straight — 24 Oct 1997, 15:59 · follows adam louis stephanides

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If found FREE LIVE FREE very humorous, but it's been too long to single out a particular passage. I thought THERE ARE DOORS has some funny bits too (particularly G. Gordon Liddy).

-Rostrum