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The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 28 Apr 2001

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Alice Turner — 28 Apr 2001, 18:43

Dan'I wrote:

Au contraire: I am in fact too sophisticated _not_ to be offended by religious bigotry, whether it favors or disfavors mine own belief-system. I find, e.g., books like "This Present Darkness" quite as intolerable as, I suspect, I should find the Pullmans.

You might not find them so intolerable. He's not drum-beating, he's just presenting the Gnostic PoV. Considering the millions of reams of printed paper that have shored the other side, I think that's fair enough. Interesting, too. And, man, does he do suspense well! That's the real reason for reading these. Though not the only reason--he's not bad with character. His villainess, Mrs. Coulter, starts out, you think, as a fairly standard Morgan la Fay-type heavy, but she gets a lot more complex as she goes along. And his boy and girl heroes are not quite standard-issue either, especially the boy. That boy, you think at several points, could grow up to be a thoroughly vicious man. Or not.

What is "This Present Darkness?" Is that one of those "Christian best-sellers?" Did you read it? I'm gonna read one a them thangs one a these days just outa curiosity.

-alga