

New Wolfe story online (spoilers for "Copperhead")

The Urth list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 05 May 2001

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/2623>

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William Ansley — 05 May 2001, 23:40

First of all this message should really be in the Urth list. I am cross posting it in the hope that anyone who replies will just reply to Urth.

At 10:01 PM -0500 5/4/01, Endymion9 wrote:

David DiGiacomo wrote:

>>http://www.scifi.com/scifiction/originals/originals_archive/wolfe/wolfe1.html

Wow, I hated this story. It had all my least favorite Lupine elements: phonetic dialect, misogyny, Christianity, and an incomprehensible ending.

Did anyone like it?

I liked it. Didn't understand the last paragraph but everything else seemed fairly straight forward. At least I could figure out the phonetic dialect this time. Many times I didn't know what Pig was saying.

Dennis/Endy

"Vhas a goose." She turned, and her eyes were the color of heaven, and she was the loveliest woman the new President had ever seen. "Nawt lak 'ou. Aw zay, 'ou vhill nawt neffer gawnt offer mee agan." She shrugged. "Dhoss bhoyes, de vhun keels de odder. Aw douh nawthing."

I could manage to work out what Jane Doe was saying until the last (presumably) crucial paragraph of her dialog (quoted above). Perhaps you could elucidate? I think I got most of it, actually. Here's my "translation":

"Vhas a goose."

"Was a [?]"

"Nawt lak 'ou. Aw zay, 'ou vhill nawt neffer gawnt offer mee agan." "Not like you. I say, you will not never[?] grunt[?] over me again."

"Dhoss bhoyes, de vhun keels de odder. Aw douh nawthing." "Those boys, the one kills the other. I do nothing."

So, what is "goose"? What about "neffer" and "gawnt"?

I (and Spectacled Bear) await your reply.

William Ansley

Endymion9 — 06 May 2001, 10:48 · follows William Ansley

William Ansley communicated:

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and she was the loveliest woman the new President had ever seen.
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"Not like you. I say, you will not never[?] grunt[?] over me again."

"Dhoss bhoyes, de vhun keels de odder. Aw douh nawthing."
"Those boys, the one kills the other. I do nothing."

So, what is "goose"? What about "neffer" and "grawnt"?

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I think you had it correct already. Or at least I saw it the same way.

"Vhas a goose" I interpreted as either "Was a grouse" which Webster says is a ground dwelling
bird. I was thinking she was calling him a rodent. Or possible "Was gross". with the a used in the
way people used to imitate Italian immigrants. "He was a my friend." etc.

Negger = never as you stated.
grawnt = grunt as you stated.

So the paragraph struck me as

He was gross. Not like you [whom I like currently].
I told him he will not ever grunt over me again. [As in I told him he would never have sex with
me again.]

Even if I missed a word here or there I could understand Jane Doe's intent. With Pig it was many
times the other way around. I could get 3 out of 10 words and had no idea if he was talking
friendly or threateningly to Horn.

Dennis/Endy
<http://home.mindspring.com/~endymion9/index.htm>