

The Invisible Library

The Urth list — 9 messages, 5 voices, 11 Jun 2001

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/2677>

Exported from an unofficial mirror of a public mailing list. Copyright in each message remains with the person who wrote it. Email addresses are obscured as `user at host`, the form the original archive published. This file was rebuilt from parsed fields rather than retained headers, so it is faithful in content but not byte-exact.

Adam Stephanides — 11 Jun 2001, 19:33

There is a website called The Invisible Library -- <http://www.invisiblelibrary.com> -- which lists books which don't actually exist, but whose titles appear in other books. It lists the author and title of the real books they appear in, as well as the "author" and "title" of the imaginary book. It's a fascinating site, but there is not one entry for Gene Wolfe.

Obviously, this can't go on. There's _The Book of Gold_, _The Lusty Lawyer_ by Amanda Ros from _Peace_ (and wasn't there another book by her as well?) and everything in _Bibliomen_ (my copy of which is not accessible at the moment, unfortunately); and there must be others. Should we make it a group project? I'm willing to act as clearinghouse, if people don't want to clutter up the list.

--Adam

Michael Andre-Driussi — 11 Jun 2001, 20:18 · follows Adam Stephanides

Wonders of Urth and Sky (oh, that doesn't count, does it?)

from BIBLIOMEN:

Arthurs, Kirk Patterson (Ph.D.), MASK AND COIN: GRUB STREET IN THE 30S (1986)
" , MAZE OF GREY: JOHN GLASKIN REVISITED (1987)
" , SWEET SWORD, HIGH HEART: LOVE AND WAR IN THE FICTION OF JOHN GLASKIN (1990) " ,
FICTION IN FANCY DRESS: JOHN GLASKIN ET AL EXPOSED (1996) [p. 9]

Brooks, Robert T., (Spinning Jenny transcription: title unknown), Doubleday (1982) [p. 19]

French, Bernard A., GREAT LOST ART OF WESTERN EUROPE [p. 58; p. 23; p. 43] " , PERFECTION UNTO DEATH [p. 44]

Glaskin, John, SIXPENCE FOR BUNS
" , BRIDESHEAD
" , YOU CAN'T GO HOME AT ALL [p. 42]

Jons, John J. (jr.), A GUIDE TO THE PUBLIC TOILETS OF AMERICA (1990) [p. 51] " , MEDITATION ON THE UTILITARIAN THEORY OF LITERARY MERIT [p. 52]

McRidy, Xavier, THE PAPER NAUTILUS [p. 53]

S. Peety, MR. MILTON IN MEDOC [p. 53]

de Solo y Varios, Juan Gabriel Sabastian, ALLEGIANCE TO LA VILLA REAL DE LA SANTA FE DE SAN FRANCISCO [p. 53]

Poor, Adam, VOICES VOCABLE (1975) [p. 64]
" , A SALTED MINE (1976) [p. 64]

Rico, Paul, TRAINING THE MIND (1981) [p. 72]

Mirk, Roy C., POULTRY AS SYMBOLISM IN NINETEENTH CENTURY AMERICAN LITERATURE " ,
TEA-TIME TALK IN THE NOVELS OF LOUISE MAY ALCOTT " , WASHING AS A EUPHEMISM IN THE
WORKS OF JACK LONDON " , A POST-MODERNIST CRITIC VIEWS THE ANTEBELLUM MIDDLE WEST
[p. 93]

=mantis=

Sirius Fiction
Has Moved To
<http://www.siriusfiction.com/>

matthew.malthouse — 12 Jun 2001, 11:02 · follows Michael Andre-Driussi

On 12/06/2001 01:33:24 Adam Stephanides wrote:
There is a website called The Invisible Library --
<http://www.invisiblelibrary.com> -- which lists books which don't actually
exist,

Presumably this is a branch of the Library of the Unseen University.

Go armed with bananas.

Matthew

Adam Stephanides — 12 Jun 2001, 21:58 · follows matthew.malthouse

Found three more, all in "From the Desk of Gilmer C. Merton" (in STOREYS FROM THE OLD
HOTEL).

STAR SHUTTLE by Gilray Gunn (Gilmer C. Merton)
COME, DARK LUST! by Wolf Moon
THE SHRIEKING IN THE NURSERY by Wolf Moon

Roy C. Lackey — 13 Jun 2001, 01:00 · follows Adam Stephanides

From: Adam Stephanides <adamsteph at earthlink.net>
Subject: The Invisible Library
Date: Mon, 11 Jun 2001 19:33:24 -0500

Obviously, this can't go on. There's _The Book of Gold_, _The Lusty
Lawyer_
by Amanda Ros from _Peace_ (and wasn't there another book by her as well?)

From PEACE: (p.-160, Berkley)

OH, RARE AMANDA (a biography, author unknown)

By Amanda Ros:

IRENE IDDESLEIGH

DELINA DELANEY

DONALD DUDLEY

FUMES OF FORMATION (poetry)

POEMS OF PUNCTURE (poetry)

MARVELLS OF SCIENCE by Morryster (197)

CULTES DES GOULES by the Comte d'Erlette (198)

THE BOOK THAT BINDS THE DEAD (or THE BOOK OF THE NAMES OF THE DEAD, or THE BOOK OF THE NAMES OF DEATH) by Louis A. Gold (or the NECRONOMICON as coined by HPL, if you like--this gets complicated) (215)

-Roy

Michael Andre-Driussi — 13 Jun 2001, 06:42 · follows Roy C. Lackey

Roy wrote:

From PEACE: (p.-160, Berkley)

OH, RARE AMANDA (a biography, author unknown)

By Amanda Ros:

IRENE IDDESLEIGH

DELINA DELANEY

DONALD DUDLEY

FUMES OF FORMATION (poetry)

POEMS OF PUNCTURE (poetry)

Ach, Roy--he got you!

There really =is= an Amanda (McKitterick) Ros, eccentric Irish author (take note, PEACE ethnographers!), and she really did write IRENE IDDESLEIGH (Bookfinder.com lists a few available today, ranging from \$8.50 to \$20) and HELEN HUDDLESON (ranging from \$75 to \$106).

And O RARE AMANDA really is a biography of her, written by Jack Loudan!

Since LUSTY LAWYER by Amanda Ros is the forgery (?) in PEACE, this is the one for the invisible library: the others I assume are all real titles.

=mantis=

Sirius Fiction
Has Moved To
<http://www.siriusfiction.com/>

William Ansley — 13 Jun 2001, 23:11 · follows Michael Andre-Driussi

At 7:33 PM -0500 6/11/01, Adam Stephanides wrote:
There is a website called The Invisible Library --
<http://www.invisiblelibrary.com> -- which lists books which don't actually exist, but whose titles appear in other books. It lists the author and title of the real books they appear in, as well as the "author" and "title" of the imaginary book. It's a fascinating site, but there is not one entry for Gene Wolfe.

Obviously, this can't go on. There's _The Book of Gold_

...

Was there ever a actually a book entitled _The Book of Gold_ in one of Wolfe's works? I though it was just a name for whatever book a reader found at an early age that became, for him or her, the "perfect" book.

William Ansley

Adam Stephanides — 14 Jun 2001, 00:05 · follows William Ansley

on 6/11/01 10:18 PM, Michael Andre-Driussi at mantis at siriusfiction.com wrote:
Wonders of Urth and Sky (oh, that doesn't count, does it?)

Why not? Looking at the passage in SHADOW where it's first mentioned, it seems to be a perfectly legitimate book, and it undoubtedly doesn't exist.

There's also (in the same passage) Blaithmaic's LIVES OF THE SEVENTEEN MEGATHERIANS.

--Adam

Adam Stephanides — 14 Jun 2001, 15:42 · follows Adam Stephanides

on 6/13/01 10:11 PM, William Ansley at wansley at warwick.net wrote:
Was there ever a actually a book entitled _The Book of Gold_ in one of Wolfe's works? I though it was just a name for whatever book a reader found at an early age that became, for him or her, the "perfect" book.

In SHADOW OF THE TORTURER (chap. VI), Master Ultan speaks of _The Book of Gold_ as the book which, when a child discovers it, leads to his becoming a librarian. It may be, though, that this in fact doesn't refer to a specific book, though Ultan doesn't say so explicitly. I could make an argument both ways.

--Adam