

In Glory Like Their Star (SPOILERS) F&SF Mag story

The Urth list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 31 Aug 2001

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/2817>

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Endy9 — 31 Aug 2001, 19:28

Just read this in the Oct/Nov issue of Fantasy & Science Fiction magazine I got in the mail yesterday. Always excited to see a new Wolfe story anywhere.

Once again the more Wolfe stories that come out the less chance there is of me *thinking* I fully understand them. I doubt I've had that feeling since the early 80s.

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I felt shock when within the first page I had figured out that this was a story of aliens (misinterpreted as gods) visiting earth, so I knew Gene was giving that away and the real mysteries were to come.

And once again I have mostly questions that I hope others here can shed light on for me (smile).

1. Any idea what the passage on p.110 means? "Our long voyage through space impressed them. I doubt they grasped its length, for their concepts of the five they call "time" are muddled, and so erroneous that they cannot be termed primitive with any precision. They will be primitive, perhaps, when the sunlight reaches them on this place."

I don't understand the word "five" compared to time.

I don't understand where this place that sunlight will reach is to try to determine when the things earthlings will reach primitive status.

2. What is the deal about the earth not being a sphere because the desert is a flat spot where gravity works differently? Is the desert the mysterious hidden "Eden" man is still searching for? Something on a different plane where gravity, time, etc. work differently that the alien could see but man can't?

3. Why does the narrator talk of traveling "alone" but make many references to "others" who

aren't earth dwellers from what I can tell?

4. Sol died? Is this in the future when the sun goes out or in the past when man was more primitive. The sentence about the earth man stopping his beast and causing it to lie down on the desert sand for some reason made me think it could be a camel in the past or a hovercar in the future.

Look forward to seeing others thoughts,

Thanks,

Dennis/Endy

<http://members.home.net/endymion91/index.htm>

James Jordan — 17 Sep 2001, 12:24 · follows Endy9

Only one thought, and it's probably wrong:

At 07:28 PM 8/31/2001 -0500, you wrote:

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The light from his own home sun, which he has outrun? Or are we in a nuclear winter?

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Is the "flat" area the site of a nuclear detonation?

Nutria