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The Urth list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 14 Dec 2001

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David Duffy — 14 Dec 2001, 00:18

On Thu, 13 Dec 2001 Jerry Friedman wrote:

There's an essay by Wolfe about Tolkien in December's "Interzone" and freedoms - the Christian order itself, even if there is no sight of God himself in the books.

"No sight of God" is literally true, but God is busily arranging coincidences, prophetic dreams, and stuff like that. Sort of like TBotNS, as a matter of fact. I wonder whether Tolkien was Wolfe's model in that book.

Curiously, the ultra-Catholic Lafferty despised LOTR because he thought

It's also interesting, at least to me, that as a child I felt a bit betrayed when I realized that `_The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe_` was Christian propaganda, and I'm glad LotR didn't do that to me. Obviously I've gotten over this, since I like Wolfe.

Tolkien said that he disliked allegory. As a child, I read his introduction to LOTR, and used it to justify a literal reading of the Pilgrim's Progress ;). Wolfe always has a-not-always-convincing alternative explanation for the events in his stories, while Lafferty...

Have we been here before?

Arwen = Apheta

Aragorn = Severian

elves = Heirodules

Gandalf = Father Inire

Gollum = Baldanders (has to get that ring you know, or maybe Saruman) Ring = Claw Sauron = Abaia

I am unsure who Cate Blanchett gets to play

| David Duffy. ,_-|\

| email: davidD at qimr.edu.au ph: INT+61+7+3362-0217 fax: -0101 / *

| Epidemiology Unit, The Queensland Institute of Medical Research _,-./

| 300 Herston Rd, Brisbane, Queensland 4029, Australia v

Jerry Friedman — 17 Dec 2001, 16:36 · follows David Duffy

--- David Duffy <davidD at qimr.edu.au> wrote:

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Master Malrubius.

Looks like I was unclear above. I meant that LotR may have been Wolfe's model in how to handle literarily the role of God, not that BotNS is some kind of imitation of LotR.

Jerry Friedman