

Heinlein in FLF

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 02 Dec 2002

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Michael Andre-Driussi — 02 Dec 2002, 22:28

Rostrum wrote:

Yeah, but you don't really want me to start comparing Free

Live Free with Heinlein's Number of the Beast, do you?

Which is funny, because I did detect odd flashes of Heinlein in FLF, mainly in the kitchen's "door into summer" image, but also the sort of Libertarian reading that Adam Stephanides was talking about (a reading that if not undermined by the text itself would produce a very Heinlein feel -- since I think it is undermined, I wonder if it is a conscious critique of Heinlein or not). As well as the whole "--By His Bootstraps" time-travel loop, of course!

If the four do end up in a "simpler past," where they enjoy the benefits of frontier liberty, then that would also be, imho, a thing to remind me of Heinlein. The frontier spirit of THE MOON IS A HARSH MISTRESS and the frontiers of FARNHAM'S FREEHOLD.

OTOH, Dave Langford's review of FLF mentions Chesterton's THE MAN WHO WAS THURSDAY, and this seems very appropriate.

=mantis=