

Small g, Big G

The Urth list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 19 Jan 2003

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/3772>

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ArchD'Ikon Zibethicus — 19 Jan 2003, 06:33

Nigel thus:

Williams is such a wonderful but odd writer, isn't he? I confess to an intense love-hate relationship with his books.

Mystical, baffing and worth re-reading...

If I may make so bold about such a complex and mystical book, can I suggest that the primary thing going on in "The Place of the Lion" is that the archetype of each of the nine orders of angels is let loose >in the world.

(bows) This is a much better way of describing it...my only excuse, which is not a valid one, is that I was writing under conditions of some haste and lamentable fatigue.

Remember that the heroine's thesis in "The Place of the Lion" is - if >my memory serves me - on "Neoplatonism in the Court of Charlemagne".

Archetypes were Platonic and then Neoplatonic commonplaces long before Jung reapplied the idea of psychology.

...mmm...that's right...I'll havta re-read it...(sighs, slings it on top of the 'Urgent Reading' pile...)

Which is not to say that that idea may not also be present in >Williams, but I really don't believe that it's primary.

To be sure! I should know better than to post in haste (post-haste?) on this list! Notwithstanding this, I think that my point about retaining a cautious distinction between theological and fictional intentions is still, possibly, a partially valid one.

consider how much he may too have been playing with similar ideas to Williams. Interesting to see that he explicitly mentions reading Charles Williams in the interview which he >did with Nutria.

Hmmmm...that's right...

->Zx<-

Consciousness will always be one degree above comprehensibility.

- G.C.H. Ehrensvard

Weep at least once to see God.

- Sri Ramakrishna

Dan'I Danehy-Oakes — 20 Jan 2003, 17:06 · follows ArchD'Ikon Zibethicus

Williams is such a wonderful but odd writer, isn't he? I
confess to an
intense love-hate relationship with his books.

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For those who do like CW, may I recommend (if you do not already know his work) Tim Powers?
The closest living writer to "carrying on the Williams tradition," except that he is, in my humble,
a better prose stylist than Williams ever managed to be. Williams was a fine poet, but in the
writing of fiction ... I wish I knew who first said it, but I've always agreed with this: "He wrote
potboilers, but he always boiled an honest pot."

Anywho, Powers is an astonishing writer ...