

Berthold at the end

The Urth list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 13 Jan 2005

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/4307>

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Kieran Mullen — 13 Jan 2005, 10:11

When do we stop worrying about spoilers?

Extra space for those who are worried about such things.

Dum dee dee.....

Ok. Able heals Berthold at the end. Wolfe writes that this is particularly difficult. Some have taken this to mean that some part of Berthold died and had to be replaced by part of Ben. I don't see it.

It makes sense to me that since Berthold has been basically brain damaged for decades, it would be a bit hard to reverse. Moreover, it's much harder to do than fixing a body. How do you alter the way someone thinks and still have them be the same person at the end? In addition IIRC Berthold and Gerda are restored to their youth. So it just makes sense that this is difficult.

Of course, I don't understand the relationship between Able and Art or Berthold and Ben. I have to reread "The Knight" and then reread "The Wizard."

Sigh.

Kieran Mullen

Dan'I Danehy-Oakes — 13 Jan 2005, 10:17 · in reply to Kieran Mullen

On Thu, 13 Jan 2005 12:11:24 -0600, Kieran Mullen <kieran at ou.edu> wrote:

When do we stop worrying about spoilers?

The first of this year was the more or less agreement.

Ok. Able heals Berthold at the end. Wolfe writes that this is particularly difficult.

To be fussy, Arthur/Able writes that. Meaning that while Wolfe actually wrote the words, he wrote them in A's narratorial voice, which - Wolfe being Wolfe - means we have to consider why he wrote that and whether it is strictly speaking "true." I think it is - I think A is the most "reliable" narrator in the Lupine oeuvre - but we do need to keep these distinctions clear. 8*)

Of course, I don't understand the relationship between Able and Art or Berthold and Ben.

Oh, what a surprise ... Identity issues in a Wolfe novel...

I think that the *first* problem for TWK criticism must be an understanding of the relationship between Mythgarthr and Earth.

--Dan'l

www.livejournal.com/users/sturgeonslawyer

Freedom has no barcode.

--J.G. Ballard