

Another PF Inspiration?

The Urth list — 7 messages, 3 voices, 05 Feb 2008

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/4980>

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Matthew Keeley — 05 Feb 2008, 05:19

Does the plot of this series sound like PF at all to anyone? It seems like something Wolfe could have read in his youth; I know the stories were pretty well-known into the 50's, when Disney did a rough adaptation of some of the stories with Patrick McGoohan, star of The Prisoner, a rather Lupine show. Anyone read these? I gather some are still in print I gather (though the Wikipedia entry more or less gives away the entire plot).

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Doctor_Syn

-Matt

David Duffy — 05 Feb 2008, 06:42 · in reply to Matthew Keeley

Has he reviewed it elsewhere? It doesn't go too deeply into analysis (after all it is a review), though he mentions the possibility of 3rd or 4th iterations of Chris. I can give more details if people are interested.

David Duffy.

| David Duffy (MBBS PhD) , - _ \\
| email: davidD at qimr.edu.au ph: INT+61+7+3362-0217 fax: -0101 / *
| Epidemiology Unit, Queensland Institute of Medical Research \ _ - _ /
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brunians at brunians.org — 05 Feb 2008, 08:12 · in reply to Matthew Keeley

Yo ho ho, a pirate AND a smuggler AND a highwayman! What a guy!

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http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Doctor_Syn

-Matt

brunians at brunians.org — 05 Feb 2008, 08:13 · in reply to David Duffy

Please do.

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Matthew Keeley — 05 Feb 2008, 15:43 · in reply to brunians at brunians.org

And a vicar! That's what really struck me.

-Matt

On Feb 5, 2008 8:12 AM, <brunians at brunians.org> wrote:
Yo ho ho, a pirate AND a smuggler AND a highwayman! What a guy!

brunians at brunians.org — 05 Feb 2008, 16:32 · in reply to Matthew Keeley

AND his name is Christopher!

I think you might be onto something.

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And a vicar! That's what really struck me.

-Matt

On Feb 5, 2008 8:12 AM, <brunians at brunians.org> wrote:
Yo ho ho, a pirate AND a smuggler AND a highwayman! What a guy!

David Duffy — 05 Feb 2008, 22:02 · in reply to David Duffy

On Tue, 5 Feb 2008, David Duffy wrote:
Has he reviewed it elsewhere? It doesn't go too deeply into analysis (after all it is a review), though he mentions the possibility of 3rd or 4th iterations of Chris.

Actually, he doesn't mention further iterations and says the maze is unicursal ;)

OK. This is in the NYRSF Jan issue, only one page. Generally liked it, though found a bit Catholic ;)
;) "Angriest and most fun"

most amusing claim: "any character in any Wolfe novel whose emotional response to any event is deeper than seems exactly appropriate is fairly likely to be the protagonist of that novel in a guise we have not yet encountered". So, he implies that as he read it he was suspicious of i)

Ignacio crying; ii) "We are almost dead certain" that on P 23-24, the man whose chicken is stolen is Chris [see P 310].

comparisons: Severian - tall and thin, seen as dark; excel in fighting; charismatic; repressed extreme emotions; attractive to (untrustworthy) women; torturers; God speaks to them directly; inhumanly acute moral judgements; write confessions. It seems to me this equally applies to Latro and Able though.

difference: too certain in faith, "Savaranola-intense"

reason for confession: convince the reader that "life as a pirate [is] a good preparation for becoming a priest". Well, self-justification anyway.

And ends:

"The reader may envy the sea-foam and clarity of that past, and would be there with him in a flash of trance, if given entry. But the reader may also take [the] final sentence as a dreadful warning: Danger! We are the people. We are you." Well you either like Clute's writing style or you don't.

Cheers, David Duffy.