

Mute reviewed, sorta

The Urth list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 12 May 2008

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/5019>

Exported from an unofficial mirror of a public mailing list. Copyright in each message remains with the person who wrote it. Email addresses are obscured as `user at host`, the form the original archive published. This file was rebuilt from parsed fields rather than retained headers, so it is faithful in content but not byte-exact.

Matt Sab — 12 May 2008, 15:57

A review of the Wasteland compilation of stories, included "Mute" by GW?:

<http://darkwolfsfantasyreviews.blogspot.com/2008/04/wastelands-stories-of-apocalypse-edited.html>

Do you think Gene Wolfe would receive more press coverage if more reviewers did not have a similar reaction as this reviewer?

?For those who don't want to bother clicking through, here is the take on Mute: "Mute" by Gene Wolfe. The story is about two children that come home and find it empty and find an empty land. I have to admit that I didn't understand this story.

Blake Hyde — 12 May 2008, 16:22 · in reply to Matt Sab

Do you think Gene Wolfe would receive more press coverage if more reviewers did not have a similar reaction as this reviewer?

Sure, but he also wouldn't be as interesting. Funny thing is, it's a pretty straight-forward story, in terms of symbolism.

.
. .
. .
. .
. .
. .
. .

(spoilers)

.
. .
. .
. .
. .
. .

The children represent Adam and Eve. You could say that the dead father is God; or that the television is God, and that the "MUTE" represents their inability to hear the voice of God. Either way, it's a story of the Garden.

I thought it was good, but pretty simple...