

Memorare again

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

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/5054>

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Matthew Keeley — 12 Jun 2008, 01:39

I know there are some very good discussions of eclipses, shadows, and solar sails going on now, but I thought I'd take a moment to bring up a slightly-more-obscure story.

I finally got around to reading Memorare tonight, and really liked it. I looked up the past discussions of it, but there are several questions I still have.

(By the way - though the story was originally published only in the print version of Fantasy and Science Fiction Magazine, it's been more than a year since release and the story now appears on the F&SF website: <http://www.sfsite.com/fsf/fiction/gw01.htm>)

By the way, did that hardcover edition of Memorare ever appear? I've heard it was delayed until June 2008 at least, but I haven't heard much more. Is it still on track to come out this month? If it's out, is it a quality product?

Spoilers follow

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Questions:

1. What exactly IS March's religious background? He's clearly a lapsed Catholic of some sort, but he knows a lot more Catholic lore than most of today's Catholics. He more or less knows the Memorare, and he's even read it in Latin. There's also a short passage where he contemplates the relationship between Jesus and his mother. Plus, March, though perfectly capable of living in sin with Kit, seems very interested in actually marrying her. Given that March is 43 or so, presumably born a few years from now, are we to take it that Wolfe posits a future move back towards conservatism in Catholicism? I can't think of other plausible reasons for March to know so much about his religion.

2. In a similar vein, March seems to be a pretty competent historian - he's heard of the Thugees and how they operate, and I think his knowledge is just a *bit* more complicated than what you could glean from watching the second Indiana Jones.

3. What exactly are "the Founder's" goals for Earth? Is he really sending people back there? What exactly do these hypothetical people do? (Perhaps there are clues to this in An Evil Guest, which I gather may be set in the same universe)

4. If, as several other Urth readers have posited, the Founder is supposed to represent Wolfe, what does that mean? I wonder if it's a comment on a magazine "idolizing" Wolfe by devoting

an entire issue of a magazine to him?

Thanks,

-Matt

brunians at brunians.org — 12 Jun 2008, 03:57 · in reply to Matthew Keeley

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Wow.

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