

"God and His Man"; Master/Maser

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 27 Apr 2009

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/5414>

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Jonathan Goodwin — 27 Apr 2009, 18:41

In the afterword to this story in *_The Best of Gene Wolfe_*, the author writes that when the story was first published, "the word *_maser_* was changed by the proofreader (I was told, at least, that it was by the proofreader) to *_master_*. Not all the time, only sometimes."

In my mass market paperback edition of *_Endangered Species_* (Tor, 1989), the inconsistencies remain, though they seem to have been removed with this reprint. Why weren't they fixed when the story was reprinted the first time?

I've never seen the Isaac Asimov's Science Fiction Magazine edition.

I looked the archives of this list, and it seems that there was some discussion of the master/maser being a deliberate change. It's not too hard to invent a rationale for that.