

Pennington covers

The Urth list — 2 messages, 2 voices, 07 May 1998

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Tony Ellis — 07 May 1998, 17:08

07/05/98

17:27

RE>Pennington covers

alga wrote:

What about -Urth-? That had a plain brown cover here (Hartwell, and with him Wolfe, having changed houses), but I would assume they all came out from one house in the UK and would have matching covers.

I wish. Sadly by the time Urth came out here it was with a non- Pennington - and quite naff - cover.

I would love to see even a part of an artist's conception of that ship sailing the stars!

You and me both. Severian looks nothing like you would imagine, and the "ship" is a normal sailing ship hanging in mid-air behind him! It looks as ridiculous as it sounds.

Back when TBOTNS first came out Arrow re-released a number of older Wolfe books, such as Cerberus, The Devil in a Forest, and The Death of Doctor Island and Other Stories and Other Stories, and they all had Pennington covers. They aren't as good as the New Sun ones, but they still have that certain something. That Urth came out without a Pennington cover is one of the crowning injustices of life.

Gordon Brain — 09 May 1998, 12:22 · follows Tony Ellis

I was interested to read the recent correspondence about cover art. I too have always liked the Bruce Pennington covers for TBOTNS - to my mind they seem to capture the atmosphere of the books.

Mr. Wolfe himself once told me that he considered the Pennington cover for Shadow to be "the finest jacket art I've ever had".

Indeed, that particular cover even inspired a passage in TUOTNS. In Chapter XXVI 'Gunnie And Burgundofora', Severian recalls himself as a young journeyman, "striding along, his fuligin cloak billowing behind him and the dark cross of Terminus Est rising above his left shoulder". Mr. Wolfe confirmed that he had the image from the Pennington cover in mind when writing that passage.

These illustrations and others can be found in 'Ultraterranium, the Paintings Of Bruce Pennington' (Paper Tiger 1991).

Gordon