

This week in Google Alerts: Mieville on Wolfe

The Urth list — 1 messages, 1 voices, 18 Jan 2011

<https://urth.darkrealm.vip/thread/urth/5915>

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Gwern Branwen — 18 Jan 2011, 01:25

Q: "How does your political viewpoint relate to your fiction?"

A.

Sometimes what you can really admire in a book while disagreeing with its politics, and/or the politics of the writer, doesn't mean not seeing the politics. For example, I think the books of Gene Wolfe are very political books, and he's a quite traditional, right-wing Catholic. I think he's an outstanding genius and I don't think it's just that he writes these cool, weird books and he has these politics. I think the politics are in the books. I love the books, and I don't love them despite the politics?! I disagree with the politics, but I find it fascinating, the texture it gives to the world.

Conrad's *Heart of Darkness* is a book that is, I think, structured by a kind of racism. It could not be the book it is without that racism. I love the book. I hate the racism. And I think you can have it both ways in the realm of fiction and art. There's no contradiction there."

<http://www.valleyadvocate.com/article.cfm?aid=13011>

Also worth noting:

- <http://silk4calde.blogspot.com/2011/01/influence-of-g-k-chestertons-writings.html>
- <http://mervih.wordpress.com/2011/01/12/gene-wolfe-the-fifth-head-of-cerberus/> (review of TFHoC)
- http://blog.42scifi-fantasy.com/2011/01/new-scifi-fantasy-releases-week-of_16.html (PR-y short review of *Home Fires*)
- <http://andy-wolverton.livejournal.com/41818.html> (quasi-review of *The Island of Doctor Death and Other Stories* and *Other Stories*)

gwern

<http://www.gwern.net>